MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- After meeting in Beirut with U.S. envoy Philip Habib, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said progress was made on hitherto unresolved issues but further clarifications are necessary. The progress concerned the lists of "terrorists," evacuation of the Syrians and related forces and the return to Israel of the captured pilot and the bodies of nine IDF soldiers, Sharon said in his remarks, which were broadcast by Jerusalem radio. In a related Jerusalem television interview, the defense minister affirmed that no "terrorists" will leave Beirut and no multinational force soldiers will deploy there before the pilot and the nine bodies are returned to Israel. Philip Habib supports this unambiguous Israeli position, he asserted. Sharon also said a solution has been reached for the departure of the Syrians, who will leave along with the other forces and will not be the last to leave. Israel insists that all forces leaving Beirut should likewise depart Lebanon, he added in response to a question about the destination of the Syrians and related forces. He expressed confidence that the evacuation of Beirut will occur at the earliest possible date and will be carried out in a manner that will prevent a nucleus of "terrorists" remaining there.

The major remaining obstacle is the PLO's refusal to hand over the captive pilot and nine bodies to the Red Cross without obtaining anything in return, Jerusalem radio reported early on 18 August. Israel has rejected PLO demands for the release of captured "terrorists" in exchange for the pilot and bodies, the radio noted. Israel's demand that whoever leaves Beirut should leave Lebanon has not been accepted, the radio said, and the departing Syrians will redeploy in the Al-Biqa' Valley, though affiliated Palestinian units will move to Damascus. Israeli sources cited in an earlier radio report said that if the Syrians undertake to leave Lebanon as part of a second stage agreement for the withdrawal of foreign forces, they must not allow the PLO to return to Lebanon under Syrian auspices. Israel would hold the Syrians responsible for any resulting PLO activity, the sources said.

Philip Habib will bring the final draft of the evacuation agreement to Israel on 18 August while U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper will depart for Damascus to obtain an explicit and final confirmation of Syria's readiness to evacuate its own forces and about half the "terrorists" from Beirut, according to Jerusalem television. Meanwhile, MA'ARIV noted that IDF commanders were due to meet multinational force officers to make arrangements for the force's entry into Beirut.

Al-Wazzan Remarks, PLO Departure Positions -- After a meeting with Lebanese officials and U.S. envoy Habib, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan declared that the agreements have ended the "grief," Beirut radio reported. He declined to give a date for implementation of the PLO departure plan but hoped it would begin after the 18 August Cabinet meeting. Al-Wazzan stressed that the unity of Lebanon is more important than holding elections or other issues. In an interview with a SANA correspondent in Beirut reported by Damascus radio, Al-Wazzan praised the Syrian forces for their "great sacrifices" in fighting Israel and affirmed that Lebanon would not sign a separate peace treaty with Israel.

According to a Lebanese official source cited by KUNA, the PLO agreed that the first group of fighters to leave Beirut will number 2,000, and the entire evacuation will take approximately 15 days. The multinational force of Lebanese, U.S., French and Italian soldiers will have a 1-month mandate, the source noted. Meanwhile, PFLP Political Bureau member Bassam Abu Sharif asserted that no date has been fixed for the fighters' departure and no agreement has been settled on the procedures for departure, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Jordanian Destination for PLO Fighters -- Jordan sent a memorandum to Lebanon and the PLO underscoring that PLO fighters must pass through the Ar-Ramtha crossing point to enter Jordan, thus ruling out a port entry, Monte Carlo radio reported. However, according to a Jerusalem radio report on the evacuation plans, the first group of "terrorists" will leave from Beirut to Aqaba port.

Al-Jumayyil Promises -- In an interview with LE MONDE reported by AFP, Lebanese Front Military Commander Bashir al-Jumayyil pledged to rapidly remove Syrian and Israeli forces from Lebanon if he is elected president. He denied he supports partition of the country and said he has always favored Lebanon's reunification.

PDRY Envoy in Damascus -- In a statement to SANA reported by Damascus radio, First Deputy Chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers 'Ali 'Antar said he is in Damascus to deliver a message to the Syrian president affirming the approval of the PDRY and the YAR for Libya's call to dispatch forces to fight against Israel.

Cease-Fire Violations, Beirut Situation -- The eastern sector has begun "heating up" owing to cease-fire violations by the "terrorists," Jerusalem radio reported. In his meeting with Habib, Defense Minister Sharon called on the U.S. envoy to take immediate action to prevent such violations, the radio said.

Meanwhile, the IDF withdrew from the Museum-Justice Palace area and the Lebanese Army took up positions there in preparation for the forthcoming presidential elections, according to Beirut radio.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi Air Force spokesman told INA that Iraqi fighters overflew oil tankers near Khark Island to warn them that they were transporting oil in "prohibited areas." An Iranian Armed Forces communique carried by Tehran radio claimed that fighting continued on the western, southern and Abadan fronts and that Iraqi planes were forced away from Iranian border areas.

Iran

The Central Prosecutor's Office announced in a statement carried by Tehran radio that the Union of Communists of Iran has been eradicated. The statement revealed that 100 leading members of the organization had been arrested and accused the group of conspiring with the United States and Iranian exiles and perpetrating the "crimes" in Amol early in 1981.

Iraq

Iraq has signed agreements on cooperation in oil installations with a visiting Soviet delegation, INA reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CONTACTS HELD TO PERSUADE LIBYA TO ATTEND SUMMIT

LD181038 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Rabat, Aug 18 (KUNA) -- A senior Arab official said here Wednesday that diplomatic contacts are being conducted with Libya to persuade leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to take part in the Arab summit conference expected to open in the first week of September. The official, who refused to be identified, told KUNA that the Arab League assigned Kuwait Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad to make political contacts to ensure a unanimous Arab participation in the summit conference.

The official disclosed that a number of Arab countries demanded that the Gulf conflict and the Somali-Ethiopian war be included in the summit's agenda. He affirmed, however, that the Palestinian question and the latest developments in Lebanon will be given priority in the meeting, adding that the Saudi peace plan, put forward in August 1981, will top the agenda "especially that contacts are underway to endorse the plan as an Arab peace proposal." On Arab-American negotiations, the official made it clear that the American attitude entirely contradicts the Arab view towards a settlement of the Palestinian question.

PLO OFFICIAL DENIES JORDAN-BASED OPERATIONS PLAN

JN171449 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Amman, 17 Aug (PETRA) -- Najib al-Ahmad, director of the PLO Executive Committee chairman's office in Amman, has denied what Israeli radio said today, that Al-Ahmad told a French correspondent the PLO decided to carry out fedayeen operations against Israel from Jordanian territory after the PLO's evacuation from Lebanon. Al-Ahmad asserted that this report is fabricated, false and completely baseless.

HANI AL-HASAN THANKS KING FAHD FOR SUPPORT

LD162120 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] In a statement to SPA, Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee and political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, said the following: Yesterday we contacted Saudi Arabia, the faithful friend of the Palestinians, to discuss the problem of Beirut. The Saudi and Palestinian points of view coincide.

Hani al-Hasan went on to say he wanted to take this opportunity to thank His Majesty King Fahd for his diligent, continuing efforts to strive toward all that is in the interests of the Lebanese and Palestinians. We are not surprised by the kingdom's attitude, said Hani al-Hasan, for the kingdom has always been a true supporter of the Palestinian problem and the Palestinian people.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM BABRAK KARMAL

NC171850 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today received a message of solidarity from President Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Afghan Democratic Party Central Committe and chairman of the Revolution Command Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In his message the Afghan president saluted all the Palestinian Revolution fighters and the courageous Palestinian people. He said: In my name and on behalf of my colleagues in the party and the state, I denounce the savage onslaught that Nazist Zionism is launching with the backing of the United States.

We reaffirm that your great revolution will inevitably achieve victory and attain all your legitimate demands, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the land of Palestine.

The Afghan president concluded his message by reemphasizing that the Afghan people stand firmly in the same trench alongside their brother Palestinians under the leadership of the PLO.

VOP CLAIMS MONEY EXTORTED FOR BEIRUT FOODSTUFF

NC161912 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Citizens entering nationalist Beirut have said Zionist enemy forces stationed at the approaches to the city have been extoring protection money from the citizens who (?want) to cross from the eastern to the western part of the capital.

One such citizen said he wanted to bring some foodstuff into nationalist Beirut, but Israeli soldiers prevented him from doing so. The citizen added, however, that when he paid 500 Lebanese pounds the Israeli soldiers allowed me to bring in the foodstuff. This citizen stated that it has become normal practice to pay protection money at the Israeli roadblocks, adding that he has personally experienced this several times.

In another domain, citizens coming from the mountain areas have said Israeli tanks and military vehicles have recently been concentrated in Bhamdun's square and in the eastern part of it [presumably Bhamdun town]. These citizens affirmed that the Israeli roadblocks have disappeared from some mountain roads only to be replaced by Phalangist militia roadblocks. They added: The [words indistinct] the Zionist military plan in (?Al-Jumhur) has been abandoned and given to the Phalangist military police.

VOP COMMENTARY ON RESULTS OF LEBANON WAR

NC171826 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Aug 82

["Political analysis: A Preliminary View on the Prospects for the Future"]

[Text] It might be too early to talk about the prospects for the future with regard to the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese and Arab liberation movement, especially during the present extremely delicate time in which there has been much talk about the possibility of reaching a political resolution of the Beirut issue, and caution is being maintained on the possibty of surprises taking place at any moment. Despite this, many indications enable us to cast a preliminary glance at the prospects for the future. This [word indistinct] of the existing possibilities cannot be detached from the existing substantial realities resulting from the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the valiant steadfast confrontation of this invation.

Observers of various leanings are unanimous in saying the PLO has emerged from this confrontation with a stronger international reputation and unmatched international political support by virtue of its valiant steadfast fight against the strongest military force in the Middle East. Against this prominent position attained by the Palestinian Revolution, the reputation of the Zionist entity has degenerated to the lowest level. This entity has emerged as a terrorist, racist state similar to the state of South Africa. The political interpretation of this comparison between the Zionist terrorists and the Palestinian strugglers increased PLO strength and increased isolation for the Zionist entity, which in the medium and long terms will (?lead) to the wresting of Palestinian national rights and the achievement of the Palestinian struggle.

Through his military operation, the enemy aimed at liquidating the PLO militarily and politically and at imposing autonomy on our people's masses in the occupied land. However, this attempt by the enemy was reflected negatively on him, and the masses in occupied Palestine have increasingly rallied around the PLO in its capacity as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Our masses have (?frustrated) the enemy's schemes and plans to implement the autonomy conspiracy and other plots.

On the Arab level, the great steadfastness of the masses and the fighters of the joint forces has proved the possibility of inflicting defeat on the enemy after Arab officialdom has long reiterated that the Arabs are facing a superior, invincible force. This fact practically means the masses of the Arab nation should come forward and play their direct role of leading the conflict against the enemy, now that it has been proved these regimes are the cause of the defeat and the reason for its continuation.

The (?feat) achieved by the steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese masses against the enemy's formidable military machine will lead to the Arab nation's masses discovering their enormous power and ability to overthrow the regimes of treason, collusion and defeat as an inevitable prelude to opening all the doors of conflict against the Zionist enemy. The more important reality of the future that will [word indistinct] in the coming phase is manifest in this vigor and tremendous moral strength with which the Palestinian masses have emerged and which will enable them to continue the great struggle for many years to come.

The Palestinians have emerged from this heroic confrontation crowned with glory after they accomplished the miracle of fighting and standing fast for over 70 days and inflicting on the enemy the heaviest human, material and political losses since the Zionist entity was established. The high [words indistinct] is more faith in the Revolution, more joining of its ranks and more armed struggle and revolutionary violence against the Zionist enemy, his tools and agents and those colluding with him. The Palestinian struggle will be more cohesive with the Arab mass movement and its more revolutionary and radical forces in confronting all this [word indistinct] on the Arab (?arens).

The war in Lebanon has unmasked all the faces and dotted all the i's. It has also put the feet of the Arab nation and its strugglers at the beginning of the right path (?leading) to victory.

COMMITTEE TO MEET ON OPEC UNITY 20 AUGUST

NC171802 Paris AFP in English 1752 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Vienna, Aug 17 (AFP) -- OPEC's ministerial surveillance committee will meet here on Friday to thrash out ways of restoring OPEC unity, which has been shattered by the current oil glut, reliable sources said here today.

The committee, a watchdog body, was created by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in March. It comprises the oil ministers of Indonesia, Venezuela, the United Arab Emirates and Algeria.

Industry sources do not believe that the meeting will be followed by a special OPEC ministerial meeting. They note that the weak world market for oil has not changed since the last OPEC meeting, which broke up in disarray on July 10 with members squabbling over quotas and prices.

Only seven of the organisation's 13 member nations are respecting the oil production quotas imposed on them at OPEC's meeting here in March. Venezuela and Libya have far overshot their quotas, and Iran is currently producing double its quota of 1.2 million barrels a day. Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Iraq, on the other hand, cannot reach their quotas. Saudi Arabia, in fact, is estimated to be producing only about 5.5 million barrels a day, its lowest of the decade.

The MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES), a magazine regarded as well-informed, says the Saudis are considering selling their petrol outside the usual Aramco network, which comprises Exxon, Socal, Mobil and Texaco.

Friday's meeting is understood to be merely paving the way for new production quotas to be applied in autumn when oil demand is likely to pick up in consuming countries. But industry circles expect the demand boost to come later than usual this year, since oil companies are continuing to run down their oil stocks because high interest rates make them too expensive to maintain.

Oil experts estimate that the 13 OPEC countries are currently producing between 18 and 18.5 million barrels a day, well over the total quota figure of 17.5 million barrels fixed in March. But actual production over the first quarter of this year was even higher, at 19.5 million barrels.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC UNDERTAKES 'MAJOR MOVE' TOWARD COMMON MARKET

GF171201 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 17 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] Manama -- Arrangements are now ready to launch from December 1 this year the first major move towards the gradual evolution of a GCC common market. The measures, approved by the region's economy ministers in Riyadh recently, envisage tariff-free movement within AGCC countries of goods produced by each member of the grouping locally.

An official source in Bahrain's Ministry of Economy told KHALEEJ TIMES yesterday the principal criterion for the goods to qualify for this concession would be that they have at least 40 per cent local value-added component. Another stipulation for such manufactures is that they should be products of companies in which 51 per cent capital is local.

Officials of the AGCC countries have now finalised procedures how such goods would be identified and certificates of origin issued. This first initial, but nonetheless extremely important step, will not only facilitate tariff-free movement of goods within the region but also stimulate accelerated industrialisation in these countries. Manufacturers in each AGCC country can now plan certain category of manufacturing for a wider market, benefiting also from the economies of scale.

From December 1 rules governing the movement of goods in transit from the AGCC country to another are also being simplified and streamlined with the same objective in view. An official here said negotiations for evolving one unified tariff of the AGCC for imports from outside the region was also in the advanced stage of negotiations.

BAHRAIN

DEFENSE CHIEF RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA

LD171712 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1524 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Manama, 17 Aug (SPA) -- Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, deputy amir of Bahrain and commander of Bahrain's Defense Force, has returned to Manama at the end of a brief visit to Saudi Arabia, where he attended the armed forces military display at the Al-Jubayl base today. The ceremony took place under the auspices of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

On his return, Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa praised the high standard of training and competence of the Saudi forces and their officers.

The deputy amir of Bahrain said he met His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense of Qatar, during his visit.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ ON AL-QADHDHAFI STATEMENTS

GF171542 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0735 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Manama, 17 Aug (WAKH) -- The newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ criticizes the statement made by Al-Qadhdhafi to U.S. magazine TIME yesterday in which he assailed Palestinian commander and hero Yasir 'Arafat and accused him of what he called collusion in the disgraceful Lebanese disaster through defeat and distrust.

The newspaper editorializes that Al-Qadhdhafi's statement comes at a time when the whole world is vouching for, and experts on military strategy are praising, the capabilities of Palestinian struggler Yasir 'Arafat, the Palestinian command and Palestinian fighters in their real steadfastness and ferocious fighting alone against the region's strongest military forces and the most advanced imperialist arsenal.

The newspaper affirms that the valiant Palestinian Resistance under the command of Yasir 'Arafat has achieved several political and military victories and has prevented the aggressor from achieving its strategic goals -- goals aimed foremost at annihilating the Palestinian people and destroying the PLO. The paper says Yasir 'Arafat has endured what most men could not in order to protect Arab dignity and honor and the cause. The weakness and languor of some Arab rulers and their abandonment of responsibilities in leaving him alone with his comrades to face the wars of annihilation, starvation and all-out devastation and psychological and propaganda warfare notwithstanding, the newspaper adds, some Arab rulers accuse Yasir 'Arafat of collusion and of losing confidence. Who lost confidence, the struggler or some effete Arab rulers?

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ concludes by saying that anyone observing Al-Qadhdhafi's actions since the beginning of the Zionist aggression against Lebanon, starting with his notorious cable in which he asked Yasir 'Arafat to commit suicide instead of sending his army and submarines on suicidal missions to support the Palestinian Resistance, his weird statement about him commanding Arab armies and planes in Lebanon and ending with his statement yesterday in which he assailed the strongest and noblest Palestinian Arab leadership ever known by the Arab nation's modern history -- a leadership that has gained footing and competence through blood, steel and fire and is represented by Yasir 'Arafat -- anyone hearing these irresponsible statements by an Arab ruler knows indeed the real extent of our nation's disaster.

KUWAIT

'SMALL CROWD' BURNS U.S. FLAGS NEAR U.S. EMBASSY

GF171928 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] An outraged small crowd yesterday burned U.S. flags near the Gulf shore at a site near the U.S. Embassy and the Kuwaiti towers. This action was one of the popular responses to follow the call made by this paper.

This paper has called on citizens and all other residents to boycott the United States in all forms in order to protest the U.S. stand of supporting the Israeli invasion forces, the annihilation Israel is perpetrating against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and Israel's desperate efforts to liquidate the Palestinian Revolution. A number of representatives of popular committees in Kuwait expressed support for the call to boycott the United States. Kuwaiti citizens and residents noted they have already begun boycotting U.S. goods.

BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 17 AUGUST

LD171032 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The foreign minister of Bangladesh, A.R. Shamsul Doha, arrived in Kuwait this morning for an official visit. He was met at the airport by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information.

SAUDI ARABIA

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 18 AUGUST

LD180944 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0935 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Aug (SPA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived here this morning on a visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister.

'GULF SOURCES' DENY OIL PRODUCTION INCREASE

PM170927 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Aug 82 p 1

[Gulf bureau report: "Saudi Arabia Denies Oil Production Increase"]

[Excerpts] Gulf oil sources have told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Saudi Arabia's oil production presently stands at 5.9 million barrels a day. The sources mentioned this in the course of their denial of reports that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has increased its oil production by 2 million barrels a day.

The above-mentioned sources based their statement "on Saudi official confirmation they received the day before yesterday." This Saudi daily average is 1.1 million barrels less than the 7 million daily average for Saudi Arabia decided during the OPEC emergency meeting held in Vienna in March.

The same sources said it is unlikely that the petroleum follow-up committee scheduled to meet in Vienna on Friday will call for an emergency meeting of the Ministerial Council. They added that, "the present conditions in the oil market precipitate division within the organization."

The sources maintained that, "The Saudi move to cut production to 5.9 million barrels is considered an essential step by the biggest oil exporting country to protect the official price of oil which has been set at $34."

AR-RIYAD ON RESOLUTION OF MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

LD170810 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 17 Aug (SPA) -- Citing Palestinian sources, AR-RIYAD says the transfer of Palestinian fighters from Beirut represents the beginning of a new phase that carries the seeds of a comprehensive resolution of the Middle East crisis. Through this resolution the Palestinian people will obtain their rights and recognition by the United States and Europe.

The paper points out that the Palestinian steadfastness inside Beirut and the prolongation of the fighting have enabled the kingdom to pressure the U.S. administration to acknowledge Palestinian national rights. The paper cited these sources, which it described as official, as saying that persons within the U.S. administration who deal with Arab relations became active in this connection, and signs of a resolution to the Middle East problem will appear while the Palestinians are present in the al-'Biqa and Tripoli areas.

UAE

BANGLADESH ENVOY DELIVERS LETTER 17 AUGUST

GF170945 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Aug (WAKH) -- A Bangladesh envoy has delivered a letter addressed to Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, from Bangladesh President Abdul Fazal Mohammad Assanuddin Chowdhury on bilateral relations and the latest Arab and international developments.

The letter was received by Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, during his reception for Bangladesh envoy Abdul Muhith, minister of finance and planning, this evening. During the meeting, which was attended by Rashid Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, bilateral relations and means of bolstering them were discussed.

The Bangladesh envoy arrived in Abu Dhabi today today on a 4-day visit.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR NIAMEY ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

JN180852 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Aug (WAKH) -- Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for Niger today leading his country's delegation to the 13th session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference that will begin in Niamey on Sunday and last 5 days.

PDRY

IRANIAN MAJLIS DELEGATION DEPARTS 17 AUGUST

GF180534 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The Iranian Majlis delegation led by Brother Hashem-Bayat, member of the Iranian Majlis chairmanship committee, left Aden this afternoon at the conclusion of a visit to the PDRY that lasted for several days. During this time it met with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The delegation delivered a message to him from Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The delegation also held a series of meeting with officials in our country that focused on the expansion of bilateral relations. A number of issues of common interest were also discussed, including the U.S.-aided Zionist plots facing the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese people.

The delegation was seen off by 'Ali Ahmad Salami, member of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the council's foreign relations committee; the Iranian ambassador in Aden and a number of officials.

GHALI DISCUSSES LEBANON WITH U.S. CHARGE

GF171708 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 16-17 (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali today met with Henry Precht, U.S. charge d'affaires in Cairo.

It has been learned that during the meeting Butrus Ghali emphasized the need for an effective U.S. stand on the Lebanese crisis. He said there should be a political link between any Palestinian departure and an overall solution to the Palestinian question. Butrus Ghali also emphasized the need for a PLO-U.S. dialogue and for the need to stop any new Israeli operations [in Lebanon] so the situation will not become more tense and the peace efforts will not be obstructed.

Ambassador Sa'd al-Oararji, head of Butrus Ghali's office, said the meeting was held within the framework of the intensive consultations which Egypt is holding with the United States. He said the purpose of these consultations is to confront the Lebanese crisis and link its solution and the Palestinians' departure with a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question, which is the crux of the Middle East problem.

NDP LAUDS EGYPT'S POSITION ON LEBANON CRISIS

GF180446 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] In its meeting today under the chairmanship of Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, prime minister and secretary general of the National Democratic Party [NDP], the Secretariat of the NDP lauded Egypt's insistence that the departure of the Palestinian Resistance from Lebanon must be linked to an overall solution of the Palestinian question.

This was stated by Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, at the end of the meeting that was attended by the NDP secretaries, chairmen of parliamentary groups and youth secretaries in the various governorates. Safwat ash-Sharif said: The Secretariat reviewed the internal situation and discussed the recommendations and resolutions of NDP conferences that have been held recently in the various governorates. He added: A comprehensive report on these recommendations and resolutions will be prepared and submitted to the Third NDP General Congress which is scheduled to be held at Cairo University from 20 to 23 September.

Safwat ash-Sharif noted that the NDP Secretariat discussed in detail the national campaign to eliminate rats. He declared the campaign will begin on 25 August in all the governorates and all the ministries concerned will take part in this campaign. He said the Secretariat also discussed educational courses for youth, national study centers and the establishment of similar institutes in some governorates.

MUBARAK TO MAKE WORLD TOUR IN 'NEXT FEW MONTHS'

GF151504 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] President Husni Mubarak will pay visits to a number of friendly countries in Western and Eastern Europe and to countries in the Nonaligned Movement during the next few months. The visits will probably include Spain, Romania, the SFRY, Japan, the PRC, Indonesia, the DPRK and Canada. This was stated by an official Foreign Ministry spokesman.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman made an official statement saying that in view of successive international events, particularly the serious situation resulting from the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, President Mubarak will hold intensive political talks with leaders of friendly countries in Eastern and Western Europe and countries in the Nonaligned Movement.

The official spokesman added: There have been a large number of invitations from kings and presidents of friendly countries to President Mubarak, including one from King Juan Carlos I of Spain, which is linked with Egypt through close traditional relations that have expanded clearly and positively in all fields in recent times. Spain carries a special political weight due to its distinguished stand vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict and its European role, which is increasing in influence and importance.

The official Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that due to long-term continued consultations between Egypt and Romania, President Mubarak's tour is expected to include a visit to Bucharest to hold talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who has always shown due concern for the situation in the Middle East and who is carrying out a constructive and positive role in an attempt to end the increasing tension in the region through Romania's close links with the parties to the conflict.

The official spokesman said the president's tour is also expected to include the SFRY, where he will meet with the Yugoslav leaders and hold talks on the situation in the region and the role of the Nonaligned Movement. He added that special significance is attached to the president's talks in Belgrade, particularly in view of the current circumstances in the movement and the distinguished roles of Egypt and the SFRY in it, because together with India, they founded the movement which has always played a constructive role regarding the Middle East issue.

In conclusion, the official spokesman said that a number of Asian countries including Japan, the PRC, the DPRK, Indonesia and Canada have extended official invitations to President Mubarak and his excellency is expected to visit them in a later tour.

THREE ORGANS TO IMPLEMENT INTEGRATION WITH SUDAN

GF151715 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Salah Radwan news analysis]

[Text] During the frequent meetings between President Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri, the last of which was their recent meeting in Khartoum, consultations were held on the means to implement the agreements and resolutions which were adopted to consolidate integration between the two fraternal countries.

The two presidents agreed to set up three organs in this regard;

1) The Supreme Integration Council which consists of the two presidents, their vice presidents, prime ministers, speakers of the People's Assemblies and a number of prominent political figures in the two countries. This council will have the authority to adopt resolutions and recommendations on integration, particularly in the economic field. It will also be authorized to remove the legal obstacles to joint projects.

2) The Nile Valley Parliament, which will comprise 60-70 members. This parliament will be patterned after the European Parliament and its members will meet in Cairo in the summer and once again in Khartoum.

3) The Integration Fund which will finance joint projects in the public and private sectors.

'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid, speaker of the Sudanese People's Assembly, has said that President Mubarak and President Numayri are very enthusiastic about this integration because of their national and popular goals regarding the two peoples of the Nile Valley.

MUHYI AD-DIN BANS ARAB LAWYERS MEETING IN CAIRO

PM171223 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 11 Aug 82 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, secretary general of the National Democratic Party and prime minister, has banned the meeting of the Permanent Bureau of Arab Lawyers scheduled to be held in Cairo from 14 to 15 August to discuss the role of the Arab trade unions in confronting Zionist threats.

The prime minister argued that holding the conference would embarrass the government and only the government knows the degree of such embarrassment.

In view of this development, the General Secretariat decided to postpone the bureau's meeting and hold it in some other capital where the government will not be embarrassed.

It is known that the Arab Lawyers Federation is the only Arab federation which did not move its headquarters from Cairo after the Camp David agreements [were signed].

MORE DETAINEES TO BE RELEASED BEFORE 8 OCTOBER

NC172142 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA) -- It has been decided that about 400 of those held in custody will be released next week and about 1,500 others before 8 October. These represent the great majority of those who have been detained in accordance with the Emergency Law.

In reporting this in its Wednesday's issue, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says this measure is taken within the framework of the implementation of President Husni Mubarak's directives that (?the cases of the detainees be examined) and that those who do not constitute a threat to security be released.

According to the paper, 371 of those held in custody were released today, Tuesday, following a meeting between Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha.

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN CAIRO

GF161126 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1112 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) -- 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Iraqi Foreign Ministry first under secretary arrived in Cairo today on a visit that will last several days. He will hold talks with senior officials on strengthening bilateral relations.

He was received at the airport by Hasan Nayil, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and 'Ali Baligh of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department.

Conveys Message to Mubarak

GF171408 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received Iraqi Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin who conveyed a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to President Mubarak.

In a statement after the meeting, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin said the message deals with the Nonaligned Movement and their meeting was positive and there was complete understanding. He said President Mubarak emphasized his great concern for the unity of the Nonaligned Movement. The Iraqi official said the nonaligned foreign ministers conference will be held as scheduled in (?Baghdad on 2) September 1982.

Departs for Home

GF171752 Cairo MENA in English 1620 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, Aug 17 (MENA) -- The Iraqi First Foreign Undersecretary, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, left here this afternoon for home winding up his one-day visit to Egypt.

The Iraqi diplomat was seen off at the airport by Ambassador Hasan Nayl, foreign undersecretary.

IRAQ URGES SUPPORT FOR MEETING IN BAGHDAD

GF141849 Cairo MENA in English 1245 GMT 14 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 14 Aug (MENA) -- Egypt has received a request from the Iraqi Government to exert its good offices with the nonaligned states and support convening the non-aligned foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad on September 2.

This request was included in a message addressed to Dr Butrus Ghali, state minister for foreign affairs, and delivered by Subayh as-Samara'i, head of the department looking after Iraqi interests in Cairo.

Meanwhile the Foreign Ministry continues contacts with Ambassador 'Amr Musa, Egypt alternate delegate to the United Nations, within the framework of following up a meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the nonaligned states currently in session in New York to discuss the venue of the nonaligned summit.

OMANI INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES ON 5-DAY VISIT

NC172058 Cairo MENA in English 2000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, Aug 17 (MENA) -- Omani Minister of Interior Badr ibn Su'ud ibn Harib Al Bu Sa'id arrived here tonight accompanied by State Minister (Hilal Sa'ud) on a five-day visit to Egypt.

HUSAYN RECEIVES CALL FROM EGYPT'S MUBARAK

JN171949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1933 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Aug (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn received a telephone call this evening from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Mubarak expressed to the president Egypt's support for Iraq concerning Iraqi proposals on the nonaligned summit conference and the defense of its sovereignty and territory. President Saddam Husayn expressed his gratitude to President Husni Mubarak, affirming that Iraq's confidence in the Egyptian people's true pan-Arabism always has been and always will remain great.

ENVOY RETURNS FROM EGYPT, MAKES STATEMENT

JN172027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Aug (INA) -- 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary and personal envoy of President Saddam Husayn to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, returned to Baghdad this evening following a 1-day visit to Egypt. Al-Yasin said he delivered a letter to Mubarak from President Saddam Husayn dealing with recent developments in the Nonaligned Movement, the threats posed by abandoning the aims and principles of the movement and Iraq's efforts and endeavors to preserve the unity and continuity of the movement.

Al-Yasin also said Mubarak expressed his support for Iraq's measures that show sincere faith in the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, and stressed the need to avoid any moves that might harm it. Al-Yasin said Egyptian officials received with satisfaction and understanding Iraq's proposal not to insist on holding the seventh nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad, and expressed their support for Iraq in its initiative and resolve to make the conference a success.

'AZIZ ON ISRAELI-IRANIAN PLAN TO FRAGMENT AREA

PM171211 Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Aug 82 p 5

[Paul Balta dispatch: "Iraqi Leaders Condemn the 'Objective Alliance' Between Tehran and Jerusalem Against Arab Unity"]

[Text] Baghdad -- "Israeli expansionism and Persian hegemony are the same battle." This slogan illustrates perfectly the political view that Iraq has of the region and it underlies its leaders' analyses. There is, they say, an objective alliance between Jerusalem and Tehran against Arabism and Arab unity, and the resolutions of the ninth Ba'th Party regional congress (24-27 June) also take up that theme.

For the Iraqis -- as for the other Arab countries -- the State of Israel, proclaimed in 1948, is "a European colony implanted in the heart of the Middle East." They recall that the Israelis -- coming from both sides of Europe, East and West -- were then "developed at all levels compared with the Arabs, who were poor, underdeveloped and for the most part still colonized."

Hence, although the Arabs — 100 million in the fifties -- had the advantage in space and numbers, Israel, with its 2 or 3 million inhabitants, was assured of total supremacy.

Since the 1970's, the situation has changed greatly. The Arab countries, which had become independent, reached a fairly high level of development and many of them became very rich thanks mainly to the increase in oil prices in 1973.

"In 1950, all the Arab countries together probably did not have as many engineers as little Israel. Today, Iraq alone puts 2,000 engineers on the market each year, not to mention qualified technicians," Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and party ideologue, said. He added: "In 1990, our country will have 20 million inhabitants (14 million at present plus 2 or 3 million immigrant workers -- LE MONDE note) and it will be at a comparable level to Romania or even Spain. At that point Israel will no longer have supremacy, except on the military level, and it is likely to lose it even in that sphere in the year 2000."

According to him, this means that the legend of the little invincible David will be a thing of the past, although that does not mean that the Jewish state will vanish, "because it is an international entity that enjoys support from the United States and the Diaspora even though the latter is less generous than in the past." For the Iraqis this relative weakening or, more precisely, the increase in Arab capabilities will prevent Israel from pursuing its expansionist policy. "However," they say, "the Israelis also made that analysis a long time ago and that is why one of their objectives from the start has been to divide the region into tiny ethnic and religious states, because a Jewish state would be more readily integrated among them and would maintain its absolute supremacy."

Breaking Up the Existing Countries

The plan for this "fragmentation" is, in the Iraqi view, broadly as follows: three states in Iraq, a Sunni Kurdish state in the north, a Sunni Arab state in the center and a Shi'ite Arab state in the south; three or four Syrias including one Druze, one Alawite and one Sunni; four or five Lebanons divided among Maronites, other Christians, Sunnis and Shi'ites; two Jordans, that of the bedouin and that of the Palestinians, not to mention the West Bank annexed by Israel. As for Saudi Arabia, it would have to be returned to the tribal mosaic it was before the creation of the kingdom in 1933. This would ensure that it had no more influence than Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the other Gulf emirates.

The Iraqis think that all those small entities would not only be incapable of uniting but would also be paralyzed by interminable quarrels on questions of borders, roads, water, oil, marriage, inheritance and so forth. Since each of them would be weaker than Israel, the latter would thus regain its supremacy for at least 50 years.

"I do not think," Tariq 'Aziz told us, "that Imam Khomeyni has a plan to divide the Arab world and split it apart, but his dream of an Islamic empire is likely to have the same result. The Arab world, which is mainly Sunni and committed to the path of modernization, is not prepared to accept a single Shi'ite leader who, in addition, is not proposing a great social plan." Thus, according to him, should the secular Ba'thist regime be overthrown in Baghdad, it is possible to imagine Tehran establishing a Shi'ite state in the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala', and the Sunni Arabs would then want to have their own government and the Kurds theirs, and thus the contagion would spread throughout the Middle East.

"Moreover, we do not think," the Iraqis say, "that it is out of ideological affinity that the Israelis are objectively the Islamic Republic's allies — although two theocracies or two fundamentalisms, even if opposed, may have similar objectives — but because they realize that Khomeyni can make the region explode, that his policy serves their ends and that it is ultimately they, and not Iran, who will reap the fruits from it."

The Baghdad leaders have listened once again to the recordings of Tehran radio broadcasts in Arabic in the days of the shah between 1969 and March 1975, the date when the Algiers agreements were signed, under the terms of which Iraq made some territorial concessions in exchange for Iran's promise to end its aid to General Barzani's Kurdish rebellion. They state that 95 percent of them are similar to those made by the Islamic Republic. The shah, who was then fighting the mullahs in his country, denounced in foreign policy the "atheist and infidel" Ba'thist regime in the name of religion. Similarly the monarch, who intended to be the Gulf's gendarme, had SAVAK finance the same religious groups as those which Khomeyni now supports in the Emirates.

The Iraqis also cite evidence from other documents, for instance the memoirs of former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharet who explains how Ben-Gurion opposed a plan aimed at breaking up Lebanon, regarding it as premature at the time. They also invoke the statements of other leaders like Moshe Dayan or Begin and many documents which, they say, "are themes of Israeli propaganda which systematically stress the ethnic and religious conflicts in the Arab world."

The Kurds' Role

"As for Iraq," Tariq 'Aziz specified, "Israel constantly states that a Sunni Arab minority dominates the Shi'ite majority and the Kurdish minority. That disregards the fact that one of the Ba'th [Party's] founders, Michel 'Aflaq, is a Christian, that the party's first two general secretaries, Fu'ad ar-Rikabi and Hazim Jawal, were Shi'ites and that the third, Kamal Salah as-Sa'di, was of Kurdish origin." It should also be noted that the Ninth [Ba'th] Party congress ratified the promotion of numerous cadres from the popular classes, and hence Shi'ites, although, unlike what is happening in Lebanon, the Ba'th Party, which claims to be secular and unitary, does not base its policy on religious balance.

Nonetheless, the Iraqis think that the "fragmentation" of Lebanon would be the death of a "beautiful symbol," that of coexistence and tolerance. "For Israel," they add, "Lebanon is not a battlefield but a laboratory in which it has been working since 1970 trying to predict the consequences of different combinations."

According to them, Lebanon — "an anonymous society of banks and services," — is, by its function and social composition, a country which is "on the right," and, in any case, within the Western sphere of influence. The United States, therefore, has no interest in seeing it break up because a particular piece of the mosaic might then be tempted to ask the USSR for protection while another might federate with Syria or be absorbed by it. Furthermore, if Israel is now sparing Syria — after dealing a severe blow to its economic potential during the October 1973 war — it is because it is allied to Iran against Iraq and is led by an Alawite minority which is itself avoiding open conflict with the Jewish state to maintain its power at home, which is opposed by the Muslim Brotherhood and other opposition movements. Finally, by prompting Syria's collapse prematurely Israel would be likely to see the Syrian Sunnis rally to Iraq.

"If the fragmentation plan is to be a complete success," Tariq 'Aziz stated, "it is necessary to attack the key piece in the network, Iraq, the only country in the region that has both water and oil and which is pursuing its development with determination. Thus it is necessary to start by undermining Iraq, and that is what they have been trying to do for more than 20 years but more particularly since the Ba'th Party gained power in 1966, putting forward a socialist and modern Arab plan."

In particular, he recalled the aid that the Israelis gave to the various uprisings in Iraqi Kurdistan and stated that General Barzani's son (Massoud), now Imam Khomeyni's ally, visited Israel.

According to him, the support the United States and the USSR might give the Kurdish rebels depends on their regional interests and the regime established in a particular country. Similarly, the alliance between Tehran and the rebels can only be "tactical and limited," since Iran wants to neutralize Iraq but does not want to see an independent Kurdish state created at any price.

"On the other hand," the Iraqis think, "the alliance between the Kurdish rebels and Israel is strategic in nature, the Isrelis encouraging any movement likely to divide and weaken the region."

In this connection Tariq 'Aziz revealed that after 4 years of fruitless negotiations on drawing up the plan for autonomy in Kurdistan with the Baghdad government, General Barzani demanded 1 year of additional discussions in 1974. Saddam Husayn, thinking that that delay would not resolve anything, refused and the war in Kurdistan resumed. It was the Algiers agreements in March 1975 that put an end to it, because the shah stopped his aid and it was then that the civil war in Lebanon began.

"Now," our interlocutor told us, "we have since discovered that Barzani wanted to play for time because there was a plan providing for the two conflicts to break out in the same year." However he did not specify the evidence on which he bases that statement but stressed that 1975 was a turning point for the Arab world.

Indeed, that was the year in which King Faysal was assassinated and people in Baghdad recall the role he had then played. He was very greatly affected by the secession of Bangladesh, and he wanted to prevent Kurdistan from doing likewise. He apparently threatened the shah of Iran that he would use the oil weapon against him unless he agreed to an agreement with Iraq. He also demonstrated great firmness toward Kissinger over Jerusalem's future. Finally, it was also in 1975 that the Western Sahara conflict broke out at the other end of the Arab world.

When you point out to the Iraqis that it is diffcult to imagine that an occult conductor could have coordinated all that, they merely point out that, as far as they are concerned, Begin bombed the Tammuz nuclear reactor and denounced the Baghdad regime while Imam Khomeyni is calling for the overthrow of Saddam Husayn and the Ba'thist regime.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 813

JN171615 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Communique No 813 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave armed forces continued their activities at the front last night and today with the following results:

1. One vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the northern sector of the front.

2. One observation post and one hardware stockpile were destroyed east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 August 1982

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- Baghdad, 18 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of Jeronimo Justo da Silva, Portuguese ambassador to Iraq, and (B. M. de Fernando), Sri Lanka ambassador to Iraq. [Excerpt] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 18 Aug 82 JN]

GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTS MEDIA NOT TO ATTACK SYRIA

LD171554 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1426 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Amman, 17 Aug (KUNA) -- The Jordanian information media was today free from any anti-Syrian campaigns. This is unusual in view of the campaigns against Syria this media has waged for some time. A senior Jordanian official told KUNA that unpublicized instructions had been given to the media not to attack Syria. Syrian-Jordanian relations had been strained to the extent of the massing of the two countries' forces along the common border, but this massing did not escalate thanks to the efforts of Saudi Arabia. Jordanian Prime Minister Badran hinted during an emergency National Consultative Council session that Jordan "is ready to forget the pains of the past with some sister countries in order to pave the way for a climate favorable to Arab solidarity and the confrontation of challenges facing the Arab nation."

DELEGATION TO ARAB, ISLAMIC CONFERENCES FORMED

JN171137 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The Council of Ministers has decided to form Jordan's delegation to the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference, slated to be held in Mohammadia, Morocco, on 28 August under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. The delegation, comprising several high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials, will also participate in the meetings of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Niamey, capital of Niger, on 20 August.

PRINCE HASAN LECTURES AT STAFF COLLEGE

JN171917 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Crown Prince Hasan has asserted that the superpowers' Middle East policies are based on their economic and strategic interests regardless of the policies of the region's states, the interests of its peoples or their suffering from the unjust and aggressive Israeli expansionist policy.

Lecturing today at the Staff and Command College, his highness said Israel is the main danger threatening the Arab nation. Israel, he said, is seriously threatening Arab identity and sovereignty. His highness underlined the fact that the current struggle in Lebanon and the repurcussions resulting from the Israeli invasion presage a new balkanization policy based on racial and ideological grounds intended to partition the entire region into sectarian states and governments. His highness added that what is taking place in Lebanon indicates clearly that the failure to achieve a just settlement of the Palestinian cause has introduced the various dimensions of the Arab-Israeli dispute to Lebanon by means of the Palestinian Resistance and through the Syrian presence.

His highness asserted that the Palestinian people's legitimate rights must be taken into consideration in any Middle East settlement.

His highness said the Iraq-Iran war constitutes another threat to the eastern flank of the Arab homeland because its continuation means the continued bleeding of the two countries' energies and capabilities. Furthermore, he added, stability in the Middle East cannot be attained unless a balance is achieved between the region's resources and its political outlook. His highness recalled His Majesty King Husayn's proposal last year calling for declaring the Gulf region a neutral zone and for enabling its peoples to defend themselves. His highness explained the neutrality Jordan is calling for does not mean relinquishment of its pan-Arab and international responsibilities, but instead means a positive nonalignment that may secure for us an evenhanded stand and a constructive role to serve our objectives, particularly the settlement of the Palestinian cause, on just and honorable grounds that may guarantee continued understanding and cooperation not only among the peoples of the region but also among the other states in order to accomplish the aspirations of the Palestinian people and those of the other peoples in the region.

AL-WAZZAN INTERVIEWED BY SANA CORRESPONDENT

JN172012 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has praised Syria's pan-Arab stands, particularly its heroic stand at the side of Lebanon and the Palestinian Resistance in confronting the barbaric Zionist invasion. In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Beirut today, Al-Wazzan said that Syria has fought and confronted the Zionist enemy and made great sacrifices that have left their imprint on many battles waged by Syria's brave army. He also praised the heroism and steadfastness of the defenders of Beirut despite the tons of destructive bombs dropped on them by the invading forces from land, sea and air.

On another level, Al-Wazzan held the Zionist entity responsible for its delay in reaching a political solution in order to peddle some of its aggressive designs. He said: Over a week ago, we completed with U.S. envoy Habib the elements of a political solution to the Beirut crisis following a series of Israeli air raids and land and sea bombardments. Despite the fact that the Palestinian leadership offered everything it could to adopt and implement the political solution, Israel stalled in order to implement a number of aims, some of which were revealed by Sharon. These aims are: wiping out the Resistance leaders, advancing as far as possible into Beirut and its southern suburb and expanding militarily in new Lebanese areas to inflict the greatest possible human losses and break the morale of the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

Al-Wazzan denounced Israel's measures and its attempts to expand its military occupation.

On the Lebanese presidential elections, Al-Wazzan expressed hope that the elections will not be conducted under Israeli occupation, adding that, in any circumstances, Lebanon will not sign a separate peach treaty with the Israeli enemy. He said a just peach in the area cannot be achieved unless the Palestinian people's legitimate rights are taken into consideration.

AL-JUMAYYIL GRANTS INTERVIEW TO LE MONDE

NC171848 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Dispatch from Voice of Lebanon Paris correspondent Fadi Najjar]

[Excerpt] In an interview published by LE MONDE tonight, Bashir al-Jumayyil has called for expediting the ousting of all foreign forces from Lebanon, the rebuilding of all that has been destroyed in the country and the rebuilding of the government. He rejected the policy of inaction, prevarication, compromise, and corruption and said he consecrates the policy of change.

On the presidential election, Bashir al-Jumayyil said: The Israeli presence has harmed his nomination, because it has enabled those who oppose it to use it as an excuse. He added: I thank God that the president in Lebanon is not elected by 99 percent of the voters.

He disclosed that he decided to run for the presidency after consulting [former] President Sham'un, who has said about him that he is one of the great statesmen in Lebanon.

Bashir al-Jumayyil has addressed another appeal to all leaders -- Muslim and Christian -- to unite for the sake of delivering Lebanon. He said there is a trace of Islam in Lebanese Christians that distinguishes them from all other Christians in the world.

Further Report

NC171750 Paris AFP in English 1742 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Paris, Aug 17 (AFP) -- Lebanese Christian militia chief Bashir al-Jumayyil, the only candidate to Thursday's presidential elections, today pleged to oust both Israeli and Syrian troops from the country with "speed and firmness" if he was elected to office.

In an interview with the French daily LE MONDE today, Mr al-Jumayyil denied that he supports the partitions of Lebanon. "The liberated (?zone) held by the Lebanese Forces will be spread quickly throughout the territory as soon as liberation comes," he said.

Vowing to bring change to the nation, Mr al-Jumayyil said he had always called for the "reunification of the country" and its "liberation" from foreign troops. Members of "any" militia troops currently operating in the country could be "recruited as volunteers" to the army, he added.

Mr al-Jumayyil called for all Lebanese political leaders, "Moslem and Christian", to rally together to "bind a sacred union to save Lebanon."

'SOURCES' ON FORCE DEPLOYMENT, ISRAELI PILOT

NC180740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Well-informed sources have said that at today's session the Cabinet will officially request the United States, France and Italy to participate in the multinational force, which presumably consists of 2,130 officers and men, including 800 French, 800 Americans and 530 Italians.

Ministerial sources indicated that while the Cabinet may be content with defining the task of these forces alongside the Lebanese Army in implementing the first stage of the exacuation of the Palestinians, this does not mean that the other points are not guaranteed. On the contrary, Habib has affirmed to his visitors that the security of [Palestinian] -- camps and the safety of their inhabitants will be guaranteed.

The same sources added that the multinational forces will be stationed alongside the army and will support it all along the contact lines extending from the Beirut port up to the airport. The line of deployment will be divided into three parts to be distributed among the states participating in the multinational forces. The U.S. force will be stationed from the port up to the Al-'Amiliyah college perimeter in the Ra's An-Nab' area. The French force will be stationed from Ra's An-Nab' up to the At-Tayyunah circle, and the Italian force will be stationed from there up to the airport area. Naturally, the army will be deployed all along this line extending from the port up to the airport.

Well-informed sources said the French force will leave tomorrow, Thursday, from Toulouse and Corsica aboard a Transall plane for Larnaca, Cyprus. The force will be transferred to Juniyah on Friday and will take up its defined position at 0300 (0100 GMT) on Saturday.

The sources indicated that the Palestinian command is making preparations for the evacuation of the first group by a French ship that will arrive for this purpose and that it has settled [hasamat] the question of handing over the Israeli pilot.

'INFORMED SOURCES' ON PRISONER RELEASE OFFER

NC171531 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Talks are continuing today in Beirut to tie up the loose ends of the agreements reached for the departure of the Palestinian forces from west Beirut.

Some parts of the agreement are already being implemented. Twenty-eight United Nations observers have now been deployed in several areas of Beirut, particularly in the southern suburb, in order to monitor the cease-fire.

The observers are being granted all possible help to facilitate their mission by the PLO.

Meanwhile, negotiations continue over the exchange of Palestinian and Israeli prisoners as well as the handing over of the nine bodies of Israeli soldiers killed in 1978.

Informed sources said today that a new offer has emerged in this conference, namely, the freeing of all 8,000 prisoners held in Ansar concentration camp provided that all Palestinians among them are removed from Lebanon. The sources said that this offer has been categorically rejected because the majority of the detainees are workers and students resident in Lebanon and not part of the regular forces of the PLO. They have as much right to stay in Lebanon as the Lebanese being detained with them, the sources noted.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL ON PLO WITHDRAWAL FROM BEIRUT

LD171150 Kuwait KUNA in English 1001 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Beirut, Aug 17 (KUNA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization has accepted a U.S.-sponsored project for evacuating around 7,000 guerrillas from Beirut's western sector to a non-Lebanese territory, a government official told KUNA Tuesday.

The official, who refused to be identified, said Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan was "officially informed" of the PLO's stand late Monday night during a meeting with Hani al-Hasan, a political advisor to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and a ranking member of the mainstream guerrilla faction Al-Fatah.

The official also explained that the PLO had "shown flexibility" in dealing with the question of the arrested Israeli pilot Aharon Ahiaz, whose jetfighter was downed in Lebanon last June during the early days of the Israeli invasion.

The official said the PLO is dealing "with the pilot's case from the standpoint of an exchange-of-prisoners with Israel through the international community of the Red Cross."

The official expressed the belief that the evacuation of PLO guerrillas from the 25-square-kilometer western sector of Beirut will "most probably start Saturday to coincide with the arrival of around 3,000 French paratroopers who form the vanguard of the four-nation multi-national force" which is to deploy in the sector of the capital to prevent Israeli soldiers from advancing in its direction due to the military vacuum resulting from withdrawal of PLO guerrillas.

The official said "an agreement-in-principle was reached Monday night during the Al-Wazzan Al-Hasan meeting regarding size of the guerrilla evacuees first batch, which was put at 2,000."

The evacuation of PLO guerrillas from Beirut's western sector, worked out by special U.S. envoy Philip C. Habib, will "take around 15 days during which the guerrillas will be leaving and soldiers of the multi-national force deploying," the official explained.

Soldiers from Lebanon, the U.S., France and Italy make up the multi-national force with a one-month mandate after which the regular Lebanese Army will take over control of the capital, the officer explained.

The evacuation, according to the official, covers 8,000 [figure as received] PLO guerrillas and 1,500 Syrian soldiers of the "Arab Deterrent Force" (ADF). The mandate of which expired last July, and 2,500 soldiers of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) serving in Beirut under the ADF command.

Syrian soldiers, along with elements of the PLA's [word indistinct] brigade, are to "head for Syria, most definitely across the Beirut-Damascus" mountainous highway currently controlled by soldiers of the invading Israeli army, the official said.

The guerrillas, according to the official, "will mostly be evacuated by ships to Jordan, Iraq, Tunisia, Southern Yemen, Northern Yemen and Egypt."

Guerrillas of the pro-Syrian "As-Saiqa" faction "will join the PLA elements and Syrian soldiers in the evacuation to Syria," the official explained.

AL-WAZZAN COMMENTS ON 17 AUG MEETING, ELECTION

NC171414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Fu'ad Butrus at 1130 [0930 GMT] today. The meeting was later joined by U.S. envoy Philip Habib and his U.S. working team.

After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: I think that today we have ended the grief on paper. We hope to start implementation after we inform the Cabinet tomorrow of the plan and what has been agreed upon. We hope that relaxation will begin, God willing.

Asked whether the Cabinet will tomorrow request the dispatch of the multinational froce, he said: This will take place in accordance with the prepared program.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Do you expect this to take place on Saturday, for example?

He replied: Spare us the specification of dates. Let us leave learning the date until the start of the implementation.

Regarding the meeting that took place in the Republican Palace among [former] President Camille Sham'un, [former Prime Ministers] Sa'ib Salam and Taqiy ad-Din as-Sulh and [Phalangist Party leader] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, he said: I have not heard the statement issued by the conferees. However, I did learn from the spirit that prevailed during the conferrees' meeting with his excellency the president and in our presence -- I can say that the spirit that prevailed should be the same spirit that prevails among us all. He said: What matters is not that there should be elections or that this or that one is elected or is the president; what matters primarily is Lebanon and that Lebanon should survive with its unity and love for which we are all working. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: When we place this objective before us -- namely, Lebanon, its survival and its unity -- everything else becomes secondary.

In reply to a question, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Through our position as government, we have been interested in facilitating the elections process and this constitutional step, which is the core of our legal and constitutional life. Therefore, I cannot say I expect this or that, but I pray from the bottom of my heart that the unity of the Lebanese will remain the primary concern and that this occasion will be an occasion of blessing, accord and unity for the Lebanese and nothing else.

Regarding his participation in the [presidential] election session, the prime minister said: I shall study this matter as of now. However, I see no objection at all to such participation. In fact, it will be a very important occasion for me.

Asked whether he advises people to return to Beirut, the prime minister said: Whoever compares you to himself does not do you injustice.

BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENCY

NC181054 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un has announced the adoption of the nomination of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil to the presidency. The Lebanese Front has issued the following statement:

On Wednesday, 18 August 1982, the Lebanese Front held its periodic meeting in Dayr 'Awkar. After having discussed the presidential election due to be held tomorrow, Thursday 19 August -- and in confirmation of the front's principal positions on all fateful issues and in line with its previously adopted resolutions on the presidency -- the conferees decided to consider Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil the Lebanese Front's candidate for the post of president of the republic.

The front calls on its deputies and allies to come tomorrow at the scheduled time to unanimously perform this duty to which they are accustomed in major situations.

Camille Sham'un wished Shaykh Bashir success, saying: I wish you success. God willing, you will build the country that we are awaiting, because we want a country in the full sense of the word -- a country with administration, justice, judiciary and education. I stress education, economy and all other affairs, because they are all within the framework of the state of Lebanon.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil hoped that every deputy will perform his national duty and use his national conscience as a deputy who represents the Lebanese people in the same way as a doctor uses his national conscience. [as heard]

PREPARATIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION UNDERWAY

NC172001 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The deputies and leaders today agreed on the need to guarantee the election of a new president on Thursday in complete freedom. Preparations on the ground began this afternoon, and the Lebanese Army has taken over the Mansur Palace area as well as the roads leading to it. Television technicians are getting ready and television cameramen will be sent tomorrow to cover the election proceedings. The hall of Mansur Palace is now ready to receive the deputies.

SALAM, KARAMI OPPOSE HOLDING ELECTION AT PRESENT

NC180645 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text][Former]Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam told a delegation of foreign correspondents last night that the Islamic side does not favor holding a presidential election in these circumstances, because the results would be serious. Salam called for a president who would come as a result of an Islamic-Christian accord.

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami said: We repeat our previous statement that in our view nothing should take priority over the request for the immediate and complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all of Lebanon. This is the first condition for securing democracy and the freedom of election. He added: As a member of the Chamber of Deputies, I wonder how elections can be held in this atmosphere in which the desired freedom is lacking. We reaffirm our stand regarding the boycott of the presidential election session until democracy has been secured in the desired way.

AL-ASAD DOUBLES AIR FORCE PILOT SALARIES

JN171943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] It has been decided to increase the salaries of pilots. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Legislative Decree No 29, dated 17 August 1982, which doubles the salaries of pilots in the Syrian Armed Forces.

This decree is retroactive to 1 August 1982.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES PDRY'S 'ANTAR, MESSAGE

JN171255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Brig Gen 'Ali 'Antar, PDRY first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of local government, at 1315 today. 'Abduh 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, PDRY ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

'Antar handed the president a message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The message deals with the situation in the region, the joint Arab action against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

SHARON CITES PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH HABIB

TA171740 Jersulaem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1711 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon conferred today with U.S. envoy Philip Habib in Beirut. At the end of the meeting, Sharon said great progress had been made. Nevertheless, he suggested that we proceed cautiously in the days ahead until the evacuation of Beirut:

[Begin Sharon recording] Today I held a lengthy meeting with Ambassador Philip Habib to accelerate the arrangement for uprooting the terrorists and the Syrians from west Beirut. During the day, we made progress on a series of issues that had not been concluded in previous debates, in the debates I have held with him for many weeks. Progress was made today on issues that had not yet been resolved such as the lists of terrorists, the evacuation of the Syrians and the forces connected with them and, perhaps the most important, the issue of the return of the captive pilot and the bodies of our soldiers taken by the terrorists: five during Operation Peace for Galilee and four during the Litani Operation.

I think that we made progress on all those issues and I believe that we may reach the greatest achievement of the war: namely, uprooting the terrorist headquarters, both the political and military headquarters, and the remaining terrorists from west Beirut, following the achievement inherent in the liquidation of the terrorists' infrastructure in southern Lebanon. These achievements are not the fruit of negotiations but, first and foremost, they were made by the IDF soldiers who carried a very heavy burden for a long time.

It should be remembered that precisely in the last stage, the stage we now think may be the final one, all of us must demonstrate more patience and display full and increased alertness and preparedness until the last moment -- particularly in the last minutes as we approach a solution, various developments may evolve, and this calls for all of us to make a supreme effort. I know that everybody wants to return home, and for myself I want the forces to return home as soon as possible. However, I want them to return home in peace and after we have indeed reached the achievement that is, perhaps, the greatest achievement one may expect. To that end, further efforts, patience, coolness and alertness are necessary, particularly in the last hours. In my opinion, it is difficult to appreciate the importance of the efforts made by the soldiers. Those were very difficult efforts, but they bore fruit.

Further clarifications are necessary. I believe that during the day Philip Habib will make the necessary clarifications. According to plans, the Lebanese Government is scheduled to convene tomorrow. It should be remembered that the entry of the multinational force depends on the decision of the Lebanese Government. We know that the Lebanese Government is due to convene. It is my assessment that we will have a clearer picture within the next 24 hours. I believe that we are approaching a solution. [end recording]

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon added that the condition posed by Israel, that the Israeli captive pilot be released and the bodies of the fallen soldiers returned, has not changed. Minister Sharon went on to say that this condition is also acceptable to mediator Philip Habib.

Further Remarks

TA172001 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1907 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Defense MInister Ari'el Sharon said today that progress has been made in the negotiations for the evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut and, in his opinion, they would leave the city even earlier than predicted. Minister Sharon added that the captive Israeli pilot and the bodies of nine IDF soldiers would be handed back to Isarel even before the terrorists have left Beirut.

Our correspondent Dan Semama spoke with the defense minister [in Beirut] today.

[Begin videotape] [Semama] Mr Defense Minister, when will the terrorists leave -- Thursday, Friday or Saturday?

[Sharon] This is exactly the reason why I came here today. I held a lengthy meeting with Ambassador Habib to confirm that the uprooting of the terrorists from Beirut is carried out as fast as possible. At this time I would not like to specify the day, but it will be the earliest possible and the uprooting will be carried out in such a fashion as to prevent a nucleus of terrorists from remaining in Beirut. That is why I came here today and this is the issue I discussed for many hours.

[Question] Do you think that it will take place within a week or will it take place by the end of this week?

[Answer] I hope that this will happen shortly, and sooner than hoped.

[Question] Mr Minister, we knew of several points in dispute in the extended ongoing negotiations such as the return of the captive pilot, Ahi'az, the bodies of the IDF soldiers taken in the Litani and Peace for Galilee Operations, the date for the entry of the multinational force and the lists of terrorists. Has an arrangement been reached on these issues in the talks today with Philip Habib?

[Answer] We have settled almost all points. As for the pilot and the bodies of our soldiers -- four soldiers murdered by the terrorists in the wake of the Litani Operation and five soldiers killed by the terrorists during Operation Peace for Galilee -- there is an unambiguous Israeli position, and this position is supported and held by the U.S. envoy. Not even one terrorist will leave this place -- and their desire to leave is strong because, following our activities, the terrorists clearly realize that they can no longer remain here -- and no member of the multinational force will get here before the pilot is returned to us alive and -- to our regret -- the bodies of the soldiers are handed over.

[Question] Thus you estimate that we will be able to see the pilot in our midst within a few days?

[Answer] I hope so. As for the other points, the issue of the lists of the terrorists which had been in dispute -- this matter was discussed. A certain arrangement [sidur] is emerging. After all, at stake is not the prestige of anybody but rather to confirm that terrorists do not remain in Beirut after they have been uprooted from here, and that a terrorist infrastructure is not reestablished here.

As for the Syrians and their departure -- this issue had also been in dispute -- we now have a solution for this issue. The Syrians and the forces accompanying them will, in the course of the evacuation -- which will last 14 days -- leave along with the other forces, and will not be the last to leave.

[Question] Where will they go? Will they go to Syria or to Syrian-controlled areas in Lebanon?

[Answer] Israel insists that everybody currently in Beirut should leave Lebanon.

[Question] Mr Minister, if that is the case, then could you say whether there are other points in dispute that might ultimately prevent the implementation of this agreement?

[Answer] This certainly depends on the terrorists' position. We have made our position clear. I think that the points in dispute between us and Ambassador Philip Habib are now very few.

We can only hope that the terrorists do not place any additional obstacles on the path. I believe that they will not do that in the wake of the activities conducted since the beginning of Operation Peace for Galilee, where the IDF soldiers made, in my opinion, the greatest efforts ever. Both soldiers in regular service and in the reserves invested vast efforts in a war that is certainly not an ordinary war but a very complex and complicated one where military moves had to be constantly combined with political moves.

We are now facing one of our greatest achievements, thanks to the efforts of the IDF soldiers and in the wake of the destruction of the terrorists' infrastructure and their annihilation in southern Lebanon, and that achievement lies in their uprooting from Beirut. In my opinion, their uprooting from Beirut gives rise to new possibilities, and a new situation in the Middle East where peace and security will expand. Here, we may certainly be giving a push to an accelerated peace process with other Arab states as well.

[Question] Mr Minister, you speak of developments and peace in the Middle East. Presidential elections will be held in Lebanon on Thursday, and commentators assess that Bashir al-Jumayyil has a good chance of being elected. Does the election of Bashir al-Jumayyil as president have a certain or special significance for Israel?

[Answer] We do not interfere in Lebanon's domestic affairs and we do not meddle in the elections in Lebanon. Israel has an avowed position on this matter. It is not our duty; we have never interfered with events in other countries. We are not in Lebanon for the Christians; we are in Lebanon for the sake of our own cause. Our cause is peace and security for Israel. Of course, the kind of government that will exist in Lebanon is very important, whether it will be a government that will be opposed to the presence of the Syrians here, whether it will be a government that will energetically be opposed to the presence of terrorists here, whether it will be a government that will desire a peace treaty and security arrangements with Israel. However, we do not interfere beyond that point.

[Question] Mr Minister, with your permission, let me pose a question on another topic, on the issue of your position within the Cabinet. Very sharp criticism was leveled against you at the Cabinet session due to the air force attacks on Beirut; criticism was leveled by the U.S. press which reported that soldiers in the reserves were mobilized without the Cabinet's consent. What do you say about the criticism leveled against you?

[Answer] It distresses me very much that these national issues, these questions of life and death are intermixed with these political and personal attacks. I can absolutely say that not even one action, a military move, mobilization or any other act since the beginning of the war has been carried out without the Cabinet's approval, following its decisions and with the Cabinet's knowledge.

[Question] Mr Defense Minister, I thank you very much.

[Answer] Thank you. [end videotape]

SHARON WARNS AGAINST REPEATED CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

TA180558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0525 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The defense minister called on envoy Philip Habib yesterday to take immediate action to stop the terrorists' cease-fire violations in the various sectors, especially in the eastern sector. Israel has restrained itself and has not reacted, Sharon said. Last night, too, the terrorists opened fire in the Jubb Jannin area toward our forces. There were no casualties and fire was returned toward the sources of firing. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports:

[Begin recording] The main activity in the eastern sector has come at night. Last night the terrorists' firing began as darkness was setting in at 2010 [1810 GMT]. The number of terrorist infilatration attempts into our territory is gradually decreasing, apparently due to the fact that 10 terrorists were killed during infiltration attempts. Thus they prefer to remain inside the Syrain lines and direct fire from a distance -- relatively far of course since in some cases the forces are deployed at a distance of 150 meters away from each other.

The IDF's observation posts report an increasing number of terrorists inside the Syrian deployment in the northern Al-Biqa'. It is easy to identify them since, contrary to the Syrian soldiers, they wear kaffiyehs on their heads. Close cooperation between the terrorists and the Syrians can be discerned, with the terrorists receiving supplies from the Syrian Army, occasionally using Syrian arms and being aided by Syrian engineering instruments to fortify their positions on the mountain slopes.

Debriefing of terrorist squads captured in our territory indicates that prior to their departure for missions they were briefed by Syrian intelligence officers. Militarily speaking, it is possible to say that the eastern sector is heating up. [end recording]

SHIM'ON SCHIFFER REVIEWS SHARON-HABIB TALKS

TA180545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib is supposed to transfer to the Israeli and Lebanese Governments the draft agreement on the evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut. Yesterday, after the meeting between Defense Minister Sharon and envoy Habib, the gaps in the parties' positions have been largely reduced. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the subjects discussed in the meeting and on the agreement:

[Begin Schiffer recording] Within a short while it will be known whether the agreement on evacuating the terrorists will be completed. The major obstacle remaining is the PLO's refusal to hand over the captive Israeli pilot and the bodies of nine IDF soldiers to the Red Cross without getting anything in return.

Defense Minister Sharon made it clear to the U.S. mediator yesterday that this is a sine qua non [condition] from Israel's point of view. Not even a single terrorist will be evacuated and the multinational force will not take up positions in Beirut before the terrorists transfer the pilot and the bodies to the Red Cross, which will turn them over to Israel, Sharon emphasized. On this matter there is full understanding with the U.S. mediator.

Yesterday the gaps between the Israeli, U.S. and Lebanese Governments were largely narrowed. Sharon raised a new proposal as to how to ascertain that all terrorists leave west Beirut. As for the remnants of the Syrian force and the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] units affiliated with them -- their dates of departure from Beirut at the end of the first half of the evacuation process, and not at the end of the entire process as proposed by Habib, have been set. The Syrian soldiers will redeploy in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and the PLA units will move into Syria. Israel demanded [darasha] that whoever leaves Beirut, leaves Lebanon. It seems however that this position was not accepted. Another issue discussed between the defense minister and Philip Habib was the form of communication with the multinational force.

Ambassador Habib, who is supposed to leave for Damascus today, will transmit a message from Israel. The defense minister demanded [tava'] that Habib make every effort to see that the terrorists' cease-fire violations under Syrian cover, especially in the eastern sector, totally stop. The defense minister noted that Israel is acting with restraint and has not reacted but that there is a limit to its patience.

Habib and the Lebanese Government leaders think that the evacuation will begin Saturday. The following is how the operation, during which over 13,000 terrorists will leave the Lebanese capital, is to be carried out:

The French Army unit will enter the Beirut port on the morning of the evacuation and will deploy a defined site. The IDF will remain in its positions nearby. A first group of several hundred terrorists will go by bus to the port, their identification will be checked and they will leave by boat for 'Aqaba. The Italian and U.S. Army units will enter Beirut only after more than half the terrorists have left. The multinational force will safeguard the terrorists' axes of departure. The Lebanese Army will enter west Beirut and collect the terrorists' ammunition. The terrorists themselves are already preoccupied with packing up, and their leaders are trying to promise that the departure, which will start at the end of the week apparently, will be orderly. Within 2 weeks, according to Habib's assessment, the terrorists' departure will be completed. [end recording]

Further Details

TA180623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Our political correspondent has learned that in the course of the negotiations, the terrorists submitted a list of their friends imprisoned in Israel in return for the Israeli pilot and the bodies of the IDF soldiers. The list included well-known terrorists, such as the Japanese terrorist (Kozo Okamoto), who participated in the Ben-Gurion Airport massacre. They also demanded [darshu] 1,000 terrorists in return for the captive pilot and the nine IDF soldiers' bodies. Israel rejected all these demands outright.

Today Philip Habib is going to transmit to the Israeli and Lebanese Governments the final formulation of the draft agreement which includes clauses on the dates and means for the evacuation of the Syrian brigade [hativa] and the units affiliated with it. The Syrian unit [yehida] in Beirut has 240 wounded.

It was decided in the talks between Habib and Sharon in Beirut yesterday that the Syrians will leave in the course of the evacuation and not at the end of it. The Syrian Army units will redeploy in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and the terrorists units affiliated to Syria will go to Damascus. Progress has also been made in the talks on the delivery of the terrorists' lists and several points regarding the multinational force were concluded. Israel demands a written commitment by the French Government that it will evacuate its soldiers if it transpires that the PLO members stop their departure.

PLO AGREES TO RELEASE PILOT TO AL-WAZZAN

TA180841 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0830 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] A Lebanese Government spokesman says that the terrorists agreed last night to transfer the captive Israeli pilot, Aharon Ahi'za, to Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. Al-Wazzan will take the pilot from west Beirut to the U.S. ambassador's residence in the Al-Yarzah neighborhood. There, he will be handed over to U.S. envoy Philip Habib.

A senior PLO official told the AP correspondent that the terrorists will deliver the Israeli pilot before their departure from Beirut. However, it was not reported on which day the pilot will be released. It should be emphasized that there is no confirmation of this report from any other source.

'TERRORISTS' TO LEAVE LEBANON PARLIAMENT AREA

TA171438 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1423 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The IDF has reached an agreement with the Lebanese Army according to which the terrorists will leave the street opposite the parliament building by tomorrow. This is reported from Beirut by our military correspondent Hayim Ravya. The parliament building was handed over to the Lebanese Army today.

If the terrorists leave the street opposite the parliament building by tomorrow, the IDF will continue to move away from the site so that the entire area is abandoned by both the terrorists and the IDF, thus heeding the request of the Lebanese Government.

SHARON ORDER ALLOWS RENEWED UNIFIL MOVEMENT

TA170622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Last night the defense minister issued an order permitting UNIFIL personnel free passage from southern Lebanon to Israel. The Defense Ministry spokesman has said that the defense minister gave this order after he had learned of the restrictions imposed on the UNIFIL personnel. Our correspondent has reported that this morning UNIFIL personnel are also being permitted movement in the opposite direction, from Israel to southern Lebanon. However, Israel adheres to its opposition to UN personnel entering Beirut.

IRC REPRESENTATIVES VISIT ISRAELI, SYRIAN POW'S

TA171858 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1850 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The IDF spokesman reports that Red Cross representatives visited today the two Israeli prisoners who had been reported captured by the Syrians. The two soldiers, Gil Fogel -- a member of an air crew -- and Arye Lieberman from Holon, wrote letters to their families and, according to reports by the Red Cross representatives, they are safe and sound and feeling well. Their families were notified of the visit.

At the same time, the Red Cross representative in Israel today visited the Syrian prisoners. In this context, the IDF spokesman points out that Israel will continue to do everything possible to discover the fate of the missing soldiers.

IDF Holds 296 Syrian POW's

TA181053 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Aug 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Excerpts] In an interview with MA'ARIV last night, the head of the IDF Manpower Branch, Maj Gen Moshe Nativ, said, "The IDF is holding 296 Syrian prisoners, including senior and junior officers, who were captured during Operation Peace for Galilee."

Major General Nativ said that the Red Cross representatives would, in the next few days, wind up their visits to the Syrian prisoners and that the authorities in Damascus would shortly relay to Israel via the Red Cross representatives a list of IDF soldiers who had been buried in Syria. According to reports reaching the IDF, there is no information regarding six missing soldiers. "One of the missing soldiers is the driver of the tanker who crossed into Syrian territory by mistake; the other five are members of a tank crew who have been missing since the night of 10-11 July, the day of the battle near As-Sultan Ya'qub."

"Several tanks that remained there were later taken by the Syrians. We have no further information about these missing soldiers and, as far as we know, they should be alive. Therefore, we are asking for information from the Syrian Government," the head of the IDF Manpower Branch said.

The IDF major general said the list of soldiers' names relayed at the time by the Syrians -- who claimed these were the names of soldiers buried in Damascus -- had been found in one of the tanks under the title "Combat Assignment," or that they had gotten hold of those names through documents they found there. These soldiers have by no means been taken prisoner; they are alive and serving in the IDF. However, it appears that their names or documents were found in the tanks taken by the Syrians.

"Our policy has changed and we are fulfilling the Geneva Convention as regards the other side. We have reached an agreement with the Red Cross officials that we will not furnish lists of prisoners until the Syrians do likewise. In the past, we used to comply with the Geneva Convention regardless of the other side's deeds. Now that visits have taken place simultaneously in both Syria and Israel we expect the list of casualties to be delivered," the head of the IDF Manpower Branch said.

ISRAELI 'PERSONALITY' MEETS LEBANON'S AL-JUMAYYIL

TA180748 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Aug 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Richardson]

[Excerpt] Beirut -- A senior Israeli political personality met Monday with Bashir al-Jumayyil, the Lebanese Christian forces leader and so far the only declared candidate for tomorrow's presidential election.

Earlier the same day, the director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, met with Al-Jumayyil's chief political adviser (Na'um Farah). Yesterday the Israeli Druze Likud MK Amal Nasir ad-Din visited the ailing Druze leader Amir Amjad Arsalan at his home outside Beirut.

The Israeli contacts underline the importance Israel attaches to the election of Al-Jumayyil.

PAPER NOTES PROBLEMS WITH AL-JUMAYYIL ELECTION

TA150903 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Aug 82 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] Israel must expand its ties with the Christian leadership in Lebanon and not rely on the gamble of Bashir al-Jumayyil being elected president of Lebanon in the elections to be held between 19 August and 23 September, Israeli experts have said. It has been learned that Al-Jumayyil's candidacy has aroused opposition not only among Sunni and Druze sects but also among various Christian sects.

The opposition to Al-Jumayyil has led Israeli figures to fear that the necessary parliamentary quorum to ensure his election as president might not be met. It has been learned that for the session to be legal, 66 out of 99 members of parliament must be present in the hall, but it is said that the Sunni, Shi'ite and Druze delegates will boycott the session because of their opposition to Al-Jumayyil, and the 15 delegates living in the Syrian-controlled area will not be allowed to reach Beirut for the special session, so that the necessary quorum will not be met and the new president will not be elected.

According to the Constitution, when a president cannot carry out his duties, his authority is delegated to the prime minister.

The Israeli figures believe that the solution to this quagmire could be found in increasing the number of candidates that have to come from the Christian sects, among them former President Camille Sham' un.

PAT CITES COMMERCIAL TIES WITH LEBANON

TA161316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat said that the trade between Israel and Lebanon has totaled more than $10 million over a 2-month period and that this sum is greater than Israeli-Egyptian trade for a whole year. In a tour of the Good Fence in Lebanon [along the Israeli-Lebanese border], Minister Pat said that his ministry has not yet held contacts with the parallel ministry in Beirut but it is guiding the tens of Israeli plants that maintain commercial ties with Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that an initial import deal is currently being concluded with Lebanon for the import of raw materials worth tens of thousands of dollars.

DIRECT-DIAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM LINKED TO LEBANON

TA131038 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Aug 82 p 3

[Report by Yitzhaq 'Oded]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv -- A direct-dial telephone system has gone into operation linking Israel with thousands of phones in south Lebanon, the company that compiled the exchange's new telephone directory said yesterday.

Mashov, a micro-computer importing and service company, was commissioned by the IDF Signal Corps to compile the directory for southern Lebanon, including IDF units there, security installations and civilian bodies the IDF must be in contact with, David Asya, a managing-director of the company announced yesterday.

ASH-SHAWWA, FRAYJ COMMENT ON PLO POSITION, FUTURE

TA141237 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0820 GMT 14 Aug 82

[Report by Arye Gus on the "Weekly Column" program -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Many people in the territories are trying to discern the significance of the war in Lebanon now that there is no doubt that the PLO will be compelled to leave Lebanon. But does this mean defeat as in 1948, ask the Palestinians? The general feeling is no. The PLO's having stood up to Israel for 2 months is a source of pride to the inhabitants of the territories. This is also the feeling of the dismissed mayor of Gaza, Rashad ash-Shawwa.

[Begin Ash-Shawwa recording -- recorded earlier; in English] I think that what has happened in Lebanon has made the Palestinians in general more sympathetic with the PLO, which the Israeli Government has tried to wipe out. People are more determined and believe...[end recording]

[Gus in Hebrew, superimposed -- interrupting] Rashad ash-Shawwa, 74, who has just recently been dismissed from his office, says that the PLO, which has been until now a military symbol, has not disappeared. It has been transformed into a political symbol. No one thought we could defeat Israel, said Rashad ash-Shawwa.

The PLO, in its war, tried to get the world to listen, so that it would discern the horrible injustice that had been done to the Palestinians and that this injustice must be redressed.

After emotions calm and the outburst of feelings subsides, it is felt in the territories that the question is what must be dealt with next. The PLO no longer has a military option, thinks Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj. There must be a move to political activity. Frayj, who is considered moderate, suggests setting up a Palestinian government-in-exile that would operate out of Tunisia under the aegis of the Arab League.

[Begin Frayj recording — recorded earlier; in English] The Palestinian leaders living in the Arab countries cannot divorce themselves from influence and pressure of the host governments. So, I believe, that it is the right hour now for the PLO to consider the establishment of a Palestinian government-in-exile. [end recording]

In Tunisia, the Palestinian leaders can be cut off from the pressures and influence of the host countries, said Ilyas Frayj. Therefore, this is the right moment to set up a government-in-exile.

Extremist figures have somewhat moderated their positions. Dr Khatim Abu Ghazali, a member of the Nabulus Municipal Council, speaks of the need to find a modus vivendi, a new way of life between the Palestinians and Israel. There is a chance for a political settlement, he says, but everything depends on Begin. A real leader must know how to reap the fruits of his victory at the height of his glory. Therefore, he calls for mutual and simultaneous recognition between Israel and the Palestinians and not from positions of weakness.

What does Israel intend to do? Will it now impose autonomy unilaterally? Will it annex the territories? The defense minister has promised to deal with the territories when the war in Lebanon is over. Rashad ash-Shawwa does not rule out the possibility that the war in Lebanon was designed to eliminate the Palestinian leadership, to force the Palestinians to return to Jordan. Israel would then support a movement for the establishment of a Palestinian state in Jordan.

[Begin Ash-Shawwa recording -- recorded earlier, in English] Israel perhaps thought that they could wipe out the Palestinian leadership and PLO and force the Palestinians in Lebanon to go to Jordan and then for Israel to help some movement against the Jordanian Government, with the idea of establishing a Palestine state in Jordan. But this is not acceptable by any Palestinian, either in the leadership or among the ordinary inhabitants. [end recording]

However, says Ash-Shawwa, the inhabitants of the territories insist on their right to an independent state west of the Jordan River, and not east of it.

What the solution is, then, no one knows. This war is a tragedy, they are saying in the territories. It will leave terrible scars. And perhaps, others hope, it will stress the futility of a military solution. The way, says Ilyas Frayj, is moderation, moderation, coexistence with Israel and political dialogue. It cannot continue thus.

[Begin Frayj recording — recorded earlier; in English] Moderation, moderation, moderation. Peaceful coexistence with Israel, a political dialogue with the United States and with Israel, and to find an end to this tragic crisis. It cannot continue like this. [end recording]

PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON MITTERRAND SPEECH

TA172033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] A short while ago the prime minister reacted in Jerusalem to a speech by French President Mitterrand. In the announcement, Begin said: I heard what our friend President Mitterrand had to say. He said that the PLO has a right to fight. President Mitterrand, the prime minister said, knows very well how the PLO fights. It deliberately kills men, women and children. Therefore I am astonished that the French president could grant them such a right without reservations, in view of the reality of which he is aware.

EFFORTS UNDERWAY FOR BEGIN VISIT TO FRANCE

TA171040 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Aug 82 p 2

[Report from France by Gid'on Kutz -- special to DAVAR]

[Text] Paris -- Within the framework of trying to "defrost" Israeli-French relations, Israeli figures are now trying to ensure that Menahem Begin's planned visit at the end of October is carried out.

The objective of the prime minister's visit is to participate in a conference of solidarity with Soviet Jews.

Israeli figures are actively trying to make the visit an official one; it would then include meetings with President Mitterrand and French Government officials.

PERES COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH MITTERRAND

TA171222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres interviewed by Michel Zlotowski in Paris on 17 August]

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres met with French President Francois Mitterrand at noon in Paris. When he came out of the Elysee Palace, Shim'on Peres said:

[Begin recording] [Peres] I had a talk with the president which lasted for about 1 hour and 30 minutes. The talk was of an unusually friendly nature. I found the president a friend as always; nothing has changed with him. On most of the points, I think that there is agreement; however, there are points that are disputed. I think that the main thing has to do with the PLO; that is, the president's position is that the PLO should not be recognized until the PLO recognizes Israel, but you know that I do not believe in the possibility of negotiations with the PLO, because I am opposed to a Palestinian state and I explained this.

[Question] Did you discuss the problems of the latest terrorist attacks in Paris?

[Answer] That, too. He himself said that he is determined to take all the measures required to stop terrorism. The French Government regards itself as responsible for the security of Jews. The Jews are a part of France and their special attitude toward Israel is legitimate and acceptable to him and everything must also be done to improve the general atmosphere. [end recording]

YOUTH DELEGATION'S VISIT TO ROMANIA CANCELLED

TA170807 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Aug 82 p 3

[Report by Mikha'el Yudelman]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- The visit of a religious youth choir from Tel Aviv in Romania was cancelled because of the war in Lebanon, it was learned yesterday.

The 38-member choir was to have been the guest of Jewish communities in Romania. Romania's Jewish communities' choir visited here two years ago.

Municipal circles had given special significance to the trip as the first visit by an Israeli choir in Romania. But the secretary of the Jewish communities in Romania, Emil Shechter, yesterday notified city hall that the trip "would not work out this year."

Yitzhaq Artzi, deputy mayor and head of the city's culture and youth division, said that trips of other Tel Aviv youth groups to Europe also have been cancelled due to changing attitudes in Europe because of the war.

Artzi sent letters to 35 municipal officials in European countries with which Tel Aviv has youth exchange ties, urging them to continue the relationship. Some of the responses were sharply critical, he said.

A Romanian youth choir that was to have visited Bar-Ilan University, participate in a seminar and give concerts, has cancelled its trip, it was also learned.

PRESS COMMENTS ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE, REFUGEES

TA180744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Aug 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] The independent JERUSALEM POST, in an editorial called "Fallout After Beirut," writes that the beginning of wisdom about the PLO lies in acknowledging that it is a foul terrorist organization officially committed to destroying Israel but which does not constitute any genuine threat to Israel's security. The mood in which the new U.S. policy is being drafted may be gauged from Secretary Shultz' reported statement that the United States will seek to prove to the Arabs that it is not Israel's plaything. Mr Begin could soon discover that by focusing so heavily on the PLO as a threat can help bring the full weight of the Palestinian problem into sharper focus.

The leftwing 'AL HAMISHMAR of MAPAM takes up a similar theme. The Israeli Government is going to be bitterly disappointed, says the paper, as it still believes that the war will aid in solving the Palestinian problem according to its own recipe. The Egyptians have been moving away from the original Camp David agreement and begun talking about a Palestinian state, and the United States about Camp David II. Washington sees that it cannot increase its influence without pressing for the solution of the Palestinian problem which will not necessarily be in the direction of the Israeli Government's approach. After the withdrawal from Beirut -- the confirmation of which all are devoutly wishing -- it will soon become apparent that the political mess the government is leading Israel to is ten times worse than the mess of the war from which Israel will disengage.

HAMODI'A, of the coalition Agudat Yisra'el party, looks on the bright side of things. The paper expects a sense of national relief with the exodus of [the] PLO from Beirut and possibly all of Lebanon, and if the Syrian forces do pull out, the Peace for Galilee Operation will go down as one of the most exciting events in the region. But, cautions the Agudat Yisra'el paper, it is still too early to breathe easily. The problems in store after the withdrawal are no less difficult from what the paper calls the human point of view.

HA'ARETZ, independent, on one human issue, looks to the plight of the refugees in southern Lebanon, pointing out a dramatic contrast between the way in which the Israel army is going about equipping its soldiers for winter and the lack of plan for the refugees. The paper says that as long as Israel is in control, the refugees in the destroyed camps, which were indeed PLO centers and headquarters, remain Israel's responsibility. It is also a unique opportunity to turn the refugees into permanent residents in these areas. In doing this, Israel would not only help them but would enhance its own security and mend the image as a destroyer of cities and creator of refugees.

BRIEFS

JULY IMMIGRATION STATISTICS -- Some 1,153 immigrants arrived in Israel in July 1982, an increase of about 20 percent in comparison to June 1982. In July of last year there were 1,144 immigrants, so there is no marked difference between July of this year and that of last year. The main part of the immigrants of July 1982, about 32 percent, came from Western Europe (368 arrived from there, among them 195 from France). There were 322 new immigrants from North America (298 of them from the United States). From Latin America 167 came, and of them, 99 came from Argentina. There were also 166 immigrants from Eastern Europe, including 113 from Romania and 52 from the Soviet Union. There was a marked decrease of about 60 percent in immigration from the Soviet Union. There were 156 returning citizens in July as compared to 105 in July 1981 -- an increase of about 23 percent. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Aug 82 p 3 TA]

JULY PRICE INDEX -- The Consumer Price Index rose by 9.2 percent last month. Since the beginning of the year the index has risen by 63.7 percent. The two items that contributed most to the increase were food and housing price increases. For the year, the rate of inflation is now approaching 130 percent as opposed to 200 percent during the same period last year. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1453 GMT 15 Aug 82 TA]

NETHERLANDS CHEMICAL DEAL -- The Israeli chemical concern has purchased, with the authorization of the Government of Israel, a large Netherlands factory for the manufacture of fertilizers in Amsterdam. The deal is one of the largest made by the Israeli concern, and the Netherlands plant will take in about 0.25 percent of phosphates manufactured by Israel. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Aug 82 TA]

ALGERIA

FLN OFFICIALS CONFER WITH SWAPO'S NUJOMA 10 AUG

PM171255 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11 Aug 82 p 12

[APS report]

[Text] Algiers -- Sliman Hoffman, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the FLN External Relations Committee, yesterday afternoon received SWAPO President Sam Nujoma. The talks, which were attended by Sadek Zouaten, who has responsibility for liberation movements, and Mufalali Ignatius, SWAPO's permanent representative in Algeria, related to the evolution of the situation in Namibia and the forthcoming negotiations to be started at UN headquarters on Namibia's independence.

In this connection, Sliman Hoffman reaffirmed Algeria's constant support and backing for the Namibian people's struggle and for all just causes in the world.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA, ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ARRIVE IN RABAT

LD171456 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Rabat, 17 Aug (MAP) -- Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta returned here Monday evening winding up a tour that led him to Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and Tunisia. Secretary General of the Arab League Chedli Klibi was aboard the same plane, he came to Morocco to attend the works of the preparatory conference of Arab foreign ministers.

Mr Boucetta declared upon arrival that he had conveyed to Arab kings and heads of state messages from King Hassan II related to the resumption of the Arab summit of Fes. He added that he had explained to his interlocuters the sovereign's viewpoints concerning the need to resume the Fes summit taking into account the situation the Arab nation was going through and mainly the tragedy of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. Mr Boucetta finally indicated that the preparatory conference on Arab foreign ministers will take place in Morocco on August 28.

For his part, Mr Klibi declared that he came to Morocco to meet with King Hassan II and take advantage of his clearsighted directives concerning the holding of the Arab foreign ministers' conference and the Arab summit in order to gather the conditions necessary to the success of these two meetings.

Mr Klibi further stressed that the current circumstances the Arab nation was going through constituted an unprecedented turning point for Arab nation since the Palestinian people was expelled from its homeland in 1948.

About the agenda of the Arab summit, Mr Klibi indicated that it would be fixed by the foreign ministers during their preparatory conference.

Hassan Receives Klibi

LD172334 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this evening received at the royal palace Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi who arrived in Morocco last night within the framework of preparing for the Arab foreign ministers' conference to be held on 28 August to pave the way for the Arab summit conference.

The meeting took place in the presence of the minister of state for foreign affairs and his majesty the king's advisers Messrs Ahmed Reda Guedira and Ahmed Bensouda.

SUDAN

MIRGHANI CRITICIZES LIBYA'S 'NEGATIVE ROLE'

JN172047 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Aug (SUNA) -- On Sudan's view as to what African moves should follow the failure of the meetings of the Tripoli summit, Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak states:

Maybe all those inside and outside the African Continent have seen how the annual OAU meetings, which Libya hosted in its capital, have failed. Perhaps it is no coincidence that, for the first time in OAU history, these meetings are witnessing such complete failure. Sudan was the first to warn of the consequences of holding the meetings in Libya because we knew in advance that Libyan territory would be where division would be perpetuated and African hopes crushed, given that Libya's record abounds with incidents that helped in fragmenting African unity an unanimity. We have raised our voices to say that it was not the appropriate place to embody Africa's strength and solidarity. Time has proved the soundness of our predictions.

The failure of the meetings has come as a resounding slap in the face of the Libyan regime and as an African stand on Libya's shaky situation in Africa in the wake of the Libyan regime's attempts to sow discord and division among African countries and to disregard the OAU Charter and the acts of sabotage that have gone beyond Africa, as is very well known on the regional and international level. Depriving Libya of chairing the OAU has come, perhaps, as a result of an awareness that it is not qualified to lead joint African action and defend it in international forums as former chairmen have done.

The foreign minister added: Libya must realize that the issue has transcended that of persons to reach that of the unity of the African countries and their future solidarity, as explained by the president of the republic in the letter he sent to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi after the failure of the Tripoli meetings. Libya must become convinced of the need to hold the meetings outside its territory if African unity and solidarity are to be preserved.

From its concern over the homogeneous character of the OAU and the need to safeguard the spirit of consensus, Sudan believes urgent steps must be adopted to hold the OAU's meetings outside Libya. Let this be at the OAU headquarters in Addis Ababa and through preparations to be made by the current OAU chairman until the time comes that the OAU resumes its normal activities and regains its legitimacy, first by cancelling the measures concerning the Polisario's membership, measures which were in violation of the decisions of the African leaders at the Freetown and Nairobi summit conferences and a stumbling block to the work of the special committee on Western Sahara, which had nearly completed the task entrusted to it by the African leaders on holding a referendum in the Western Sahara.

In reply to a question on Libya's negative role in the Arab arena, the foreign minister said: Libya's excesses, its undermining of the African ranks, its acts of sabotage and disruption in the African countries, its interference in these countries' domestic affairs and its mobilizing of mercenaries are not actions sought on the African level.

The Libyan regime foiled any call for Arab solidarity and unity and adopted a negative stand on these calls. While the Libyan regime claimed that the geographic factor prevented it from coming to the assistance of the Palestinian and Lebanese people, its weapons had been sent everywhere to carry out desperate adventures and to squander the Libyan people's resources. This rashness became evident once again when Libya called for sending military forces to Syria, a call Sudan would have supported if the Libyan call had proved to be really serious. The negative stands of the Libyan regime became apparent when it failed to offer assistance before the catastrophe took place in Lebanon and during the escalation of its various stages, at a time when it was sending weapons to Iran instead of seeking to achieve a reconciliation and to work for peace and solidarity. Libya's assistance to the Palestinian fighters took the form of an invitation to commit suicide.

The foreign minister concluded: Sudan, which worked in the past to safeguard African unity and Arab solidarity, does not need to reiterate that it will exert all its efforts to achieve unity of ranks and the aspirations of the African and Arab people, avoiding outbidding and empty slogans.

DJIBOUTI MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 13 AUGUST

JN131118 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 13 Aug (SUNA) -- Moumin Bahdon Farah, Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived here this morning to head his country's delegation to the meetings of the ministerial consultative committee between Sudan and Djibouti, which began its work at the level of experts and technicians on 9 August. This is the first meeting of the joint ministerial committee.

Meets With Numayri

JN151524 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Aug (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received here today Moumin Bahdon Farah, Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak said the Djibouti minister conveyed to President Numayri a message from his brother President Hassan Gouled, dealing with bilateral relations and means of bolstering them and Arab and African issues of mutual interest.

The Djibouti minister also reported on the results achieved by the Sudanese and Djibouti sides during the meetings of the consultative ministerial committee that dealt with bilateral cooperation and the exchange of views and expertise.

President Numayri expressed satisfaction and optimism at these results and called for the intensification of efforts to realize and develop them.

The joint ministerial committee was established when President Gouled visited Sudan last year.

Joint Statement Issued

JN152054 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1930 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Aug (SUNA) -- Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudanese foreign minister, and Moumin Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation in Djibouti, signed a joint statement here today on their consultative ministerial committee which met here 9-15 August.

Mubarak made a speech in which he said the committee meetings are a great step toward deepening and strengthening the close relations between the two countries. He said such meetings are the best framework to creating channels of cooperation and positive interaction between the two countries to coordinate efforts and exchange views on issues of vital interest to the two fraternal countries. The minister asked the Djibouti delegation to convey greetings from President Numayri to President Gouled and the people and Government of Djibouti. He praised the spirit of cordial understanding that prevailed during the talks.

Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Bahdon Farah made a speech in which he thanked the Sudanese Government and people for the reception and hospitality accorded his delegation during its stay in Sudan. He praised the positive results of the meetings of the ministerial committee and said the results of the talks will be a strong basis for deepening relations between the two peoples. He stressed the need to exert all possible efforts to establish stability and peace in the Horn of Africa, pointing out that such stability is a basic requirement for economic and social development on the African Continent. He demanded serious efforts to save the OAU and support its role in promoting African cooperation and unity. He condemned the barbaric Zionist aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and stressed the Djibouti Government's and people's support for their struggle.

A joint statement was issued today on the committee meetings which were held under the foreign ministers of the two countries. The statement said the talks paid special attention to bilateral cooperation. The two sides stressed the need for cooperation in education, culture and information, youth affairs, sports, justice, Islamic affairs, agricultural and rural development and seaports and sea transport in accordance with the minutes recorded during the meeting of the technical experts of the two countries.

The two sides reviewed issues related to the Horn of Africa. They stressed their full, serious commitment to realizing suitable circumstances to achieve security and stability and to promote understanding among the peoples of the region to avoid internal differences and disputes and to move toward comprehensive cooperation in the interest of the entire region. Therefore, the two sides agreed to cooperate and coordinate their efforts toward realizing these aims. They expressed their support for all peaceful initiatives and all positive contacts among the heads of states in the region, aimed at reaching useful purposes, supporting security and stability in the region and serving the cherished aspirations of the peoples in the region.

The two sides stressed their desire to put into practice the principles of peaceful coexistence in the region, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, keeping the region away from foreign intervention and working to resolve differences through peaceful means. They also agreed on the need to declare the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea areas of peace. In this regard, the two sides agreed to call on all Indian Ocean's littoral states to exert their utmost to declare the Indian Ocean an area of peace.

The two sides stressed the need to strengthen the OAU in order to preserve its unity and cohesion and its effective role in preserving peace and stability, not only in Africa but worldwide. The two sides stressed their conviction on the need to resolve disputes among the African states by peaceful means in accordance with the principles of the United Nations and the OAU Charter and within the African family. They agreed efforts to reduce tension in the world must also include Africa.

On the question of Namibia, the Sudanese and Djibouti sides asserted their absolute support for the people of Namibia led by SWAPO in their struggle for real independence and territorial integrity. The two sides strongly condemned South Africa's attempts to legalize the agent organizations inside Namibia.

The two sides called on the United Nations, the OAU and other international organizations to support the legitimate struggle of the people of Namibia in realizing real independence. In this regard, the two sides praised UN attempts and efforts toward achieving Namibia's independence and expressed their support for these efforts.

Regarding South Africa, the two sides emphasized their commitment and determination to exert and continue the efforts to overthrow the detestable regime of racial discrimination. The two sides also condemned South Africa's aggressions against the African confrontation states, particularly Angola.

The two sides called on all countries to intensify pressures against the South African racist regime to achieve the complete implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations, the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement in this regard.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the Middle East and asserted their firm belief that a just and lasting peace cannot be achieved except by the complete, unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to establish their own independent state with national sovereignty in Palestine led by the PLO. They strongly condemned Israel's policy of physically liquidating the Palestinians and ignoring international laws and norms.

The two sides reviewed the situation in Lebanon and condemned and denounced Israel's violation of the sovereignty of an independent state and a UN member. They also condemned the bestial practices and destruction the Zionist enemy inflicted on fraternal Lebanon and called on the international community to shoulder its responsibility in securing Lebanon's territorial integrity.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, the two sides expressed extreme concern and anxiety over the continuation of this armed conflict. They stressed the need to settle the dispute by peaceful means to protect the interests of the region's people, the peace process and regional and international security. They also praised Iraqi initiatives to end the fighting and to resort to peaceful means. They voiced their support for these initiatives.

The two sides expressed their total support for the efforts of the United Nations and its agencies to achieve world peace, stability and progress. They stressed the need to realize further solidarity among Third World nations and asserted their commitment to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

The Sudanese and Djibouti sides urged the international community, particularly the big industrialized countries, to respond effectively through appropriate institutions and channels with the needs and aspirations of the developing countries and to increase aid to them.

Regarding the North-South dialogue, the two sides pledged to work together to achieve a new economic order based on full control over natural resources and the just distribution of these resources, taking into consideration preferential conditions in favor of developing countries.

The two sides agreed to hold the next session of the joint consultative ministerial committee in Djibouti. The date will be decided upon through normal diplomatic channels.

SEYCHELLES

REPORTAGE ON ARMY REBELS SEIZING RADIO STATION

'Mutineers' Demands

NC172010 Paris AFP in English 2003 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Nairobi, Aug 17 (AFP) -- The Seychelles Army mutineers occupying the state radio headquarters in Victoria since early today are demanding a guarantee exempting them from punishment or a promise of safe-conduct out of the country before surrendering, sources here reported.

The rebels have threatened to kill the 239 hostages they are holding in Victoria.

As negotiations continued by telephone between Seychelles President France Albert Rene and the rebels, some of the hostages reportedly criticized the government for what they described as a lack of freedom and the presence of Tanzanian soldiers on the Indian Ocean archipelago.

The hostages called on President Rene to accept some of the demands of the rebels in order to ensure their release. One of them indicated that if the rebels left the country, they would take some of the hostages with them to guarantee their security.

RSA Support Sought

NC172152 Paris AFP in English 2149 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 17 (AFP) -- The leader of the army mutineers in the Seychelles said tonight that he would "blow up" six mercenaries and 239 hostages unless South Africa declared its support, it was supported here.

Meanwhile, it was also reported here that the radio station the rebels had taken in the Seychelles capital of Victoria was under heavy fire from 175 Tanzanian and loyalist troops.

Sergeant George Nicchole made his statement to the RAND DAILY MAIL shortly after the rebels had seized the hostages and the six mercenaries in their bid to oust Seychelles President France Albert Rene.

His demands included a request for troops and armaments, and were conveyed to South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha at the rebels' request, the newspaper reported.

"We are demanding South African intervention before we will release hostages," Sgt Nicchole was quoted as saying. "If we don't get it, we blow them up."

Mr Botha was reported tonight to be studying a rebel request that a member of the South African Government telephone Sergeant Nicchole in his headquarters at the besieged radio station.

The MAIL said witnesses interviewed by telephone reported heavy casualties among the rebel force, which is estimated at 200 men.

The MAIL also said Sgt Nicchole claimed to have seized control of the airport, a power station and the radio station. He also said the harbour had been mined and a number of Cabinet ministers captured, including Defense Minister Ogilvie Berlouis and Information Minister James Machel, the newspaper said. These reports have not been confirmed.

Johannesburg Report

LD172134 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] President Albert Rene of Seychelles has established contact with the army mutineers who earlier today occupied the country's radio station, the Union Vale military base, the airport and a power station near the capital, Victoria.

The mutineers, who were led by a Sergeant (George) are demanding that the resignation of a number of ministers and the sacking of certain senior officers of the Seychelles Army come about. They have threatened to kill some of the 239 hostages they hold. Among the captives are 4 men recently sentenced to death for their part in the abortive attempt to topple President Rene in November last year. It's believed that they are also holding the minister of defense, Mr Ogilvy Berlouis.

Hundreds of tourists from Western Europe and South Africa are trapped in the island resort hotels by a curfew imposed by the mutineers. President Rene was visiting (Sime) Island, 400 km from Victoria, when the mutiny took place. There was fighting with the Tanzanian troops deployed on the island for some hours and reports indicate that both sides suffered casualties. For a time, all communications with the outside world were cut and the (Pyungmaru) airport was closed to traffic. The rebels broadcast messages containing their demands and pledges of loyalty to President Rene. President Rene came to power in a coup in June 1977, and the government of President James Mancham was toppled.

Defense Minister's Appeal

AB180932 Paris AFP in French 0839 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Nairobi, 18 Aug (AFP) -- Seychelles Defense Minister Ogilvy Berlouis has appealed for calm and announced the imminent settlement of the trial of force which has existed between the rebel and the loyalist forces for about 30 hours now.

A resident of Victoria contacted by telephone reported this appeal was broadcast over the radio after he had heard the rebels occupying the radio premises announce that the people were invited to listen to the government communiques on the 25-meter band. It seems, therefore, that the authorities are using a different frequency from that of the rebels.

In his appeal to the people -- the first to come from the Seychelles Government since the insurrection began on Monday night through Tuesday -- Mr Berlouis also asked respect of the cease-fire which is still in force for 24 hours.

However, while the defense minister was trying to minimize the importance of the mutiny and was affirming that President France Albert Rene's government had the situation almost under control, people were witnessing the deployment of Tanzanian forces in various sectors of the capital where the rebels were positioned. At about 0700 GMT, the Tanzanian forces began to surround the port.

According to the witnesses, the rebels are not positioned only at the Union Vale garrison and the radio station but also at the port installations, the telecommunications headquarters and the old port.

Mancham Criticism of Rene

MB180702 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The former president of the Seychelles, Sir James Mancham, says the trouble in the country is the fault of President Rene.

In an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation Sir James said president Rene had created a massive military structure in the Seychelles and was unable now to fulfill the aspirations of defense force personnel. Sir James was speaking from Spain, where he is on holiday.

French Warship

NC181156 Paris AFP in English 1149 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Paris, Aug 18 (AFP) -- A warship from France's Indian Ocean fleet is heading for the Seychelles where forces loyal to President France Albert Rene appeared to have regained control after yesterday's mutiny by rebel soldiers, a reliable source said here. The warship was believed to have been sent at President Rene's request.

The French Foreign Ministry and the Defence Ministry would not confirm the report.

Following last November's failed coup against President Rene's regime by a group of South African-based mercenaries, France sent three naval units to the Seychelles as a gesture of support for the government.

Mutiny Crushed

AB181236 Paris AFP in English 1229 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] Victoria, Aug 18 (AFP) -- The Seychelles People's Defense Forces have crushed the mutiny staged by a small group of soldiers at the Union Vale army camp and have retaken control of important installations including Radio Seychelles.

A communique from army headquarters said that a small group of "irresponsible soldiers" imprisoned those at the Union Vale camp who would not join them on Monday night and took control of the new port and Radio Seychelles in Victoria, the capital.

The communique said this small group gave the impression to the population that the whole army had mutinied because they controlled the national broadcasting service.

The Seychelles People's Defense Force under the leadership of its senior officers reacted immediately and always had the general situation under control, the communique said.

But it noted that because of the danger to the lives of innocent people such as the staff of Radio Seychelles, hostages taken by the rebels and those living in the neighborhood of Union Vale camp and Radio Seychelles it had to act with care.

SOMALIA

SRSP OFFICIAL BRIEFS COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON DEFENSE

EA171626 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The chairman of the SRSP [Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party] Organization and Mobilization Bureau, Challe Col Abd al-Qadir Haji Mohamed this morning met party committee members, standing committee members and other officials at party headquarters.

Challe Abd al-Qadir Haji Mohammed briefed the committee members on matters pertaining to the defense of the country, the strengthening of security and the stamping out of evil practices.

He also talked about the difficult situation the country is facing and the constant raids by the Abyssinians, working in collaboration with their unholy allies, against the Somali Democratic Republic, saying the courageous Somali Armed Forces have bravely repulsed those brazen attacks.

Challe Abd al-Qadir Haji Mohammed urged the committee members to show diligence and honesty and to cooperate to succeed in their responsible duties.

DFSS COMMUNIQUE REPORTS MILITARY CASUALTIES

EA171300 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Fighters of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] have finally destroyed those forces still loyal to Siad Barre who tried to recapture the liberated districts of Balambale and Goldogob and other areas in (Togdher), Mudugh, Ghel Gudut and Hiran. The troops of Siad Barre who tried to take control of the north-south road also were defeated.

A communique from the High Command of the DFSS announced the casualties on both sides during the past 2 weeks:

Two thousand five hundred enemy officers and soldiers were killed and more than 4,000 wounded. A large quantity of military hardware, including tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery pieces, transport vehicles and various other weapons, was captured.

Former Siad Barre soldiers joined the ranks of the DFSS, including 27 officers. Three hundred and eleven of all ranks, including several officers, were captured. Sixty tanks and a number of armored personnel carriers and jeeps were destroyed and 30 artillery pieces and mortars were damaged. Two MiG-19's belonging to the enemy and made in China were shot down.

DFSS troops lost 57 dead and 91 wounded and a number of tanks, armored personnel carriers and antiaircraft missiles were destroyed.

TANZANIA

ANC LEADER CALLS FOR RELEASE OF NATIONALISTS

EA171246 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0700 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The international community has been urged to put pressure on the Boer regime of South Africa to release two South African nationalists who were recently sentenced to death.

This call was made yesterday in Dar es Salaam by ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo on his arrival in the country to attend an ANC youth seminar.

Ndugu Nzo said the nationalists had fought for their rights and it was incumbent on all ANC nationalists and the international community to put pressure on the Boer regime to set them free.

Ndugu Nzo paid tribute to Tanzania for its large contribution toward liberation.

UGANDA

TWO DPRK SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY KILLED BY 'BANDITS'

EA171816 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Two North Korean Army soldiers have been killed by bandits in the outskirts of Kampala in Uganda. Reports from Kampala say that the officers, including a colonel, were killed on Sunday near Bombo military barracks. They were part of a trainee contingent of about 20 officers assigned to the Ugandan Army.

CHAD

1ST ARMY COMMUNIQUES REAFFIRM CAPTURE OF TOWNS

AB171619 Paris AFP in French 1500 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Lagos, 17 Aug (AFP) -- In several communiques reaching AFP in Lagos, the 1st Army of the Chadian National Liberation Front -- the 1st Frolinat Army -- has reaffirmed that it is in control of the Chadian towns of Adre and Am-Dam.

Once before, on 9 August, the 1st Army announced the fall of Adre, Goz Beida and Am-Dam. However, this information was denied by Ndjamena.

According to these communiques signed by Mahammat Abba Seid, head of the 1st Army -- the former interior minister in Goukouni oueddei's Chadian National Transitional Union Government [GUNT] -- seven soldiers of Hissein Habre's FAN were killed during the taking of Adre, while nine died during the fall of Am-Dam.

During these encounters, the 1st Army seized approximately 160 cases of ammunition, [words indistinct] a unit of DCA, about 20 guns and 4 vehicles, the communiques further stressed. Three FAN soldiers were taken prisoner during the encounter. The texts reaching AFP also mentioned the seizure in July of a convoy from Sudan, which was meant for FAN. This convoy of five vehicles "loaded with foodstuff and ammunitions" allegedly led to the arrest of 5 Sudanese nationals and 15 FAN soldiers, as well as the seizing of approximately 1,500 bags of rice, sugar and tea and 320 cases of ammunitions -- specifically offensive grenades and antitank mines.

Mahammat Abba Seid disagrees with the announcement made by Ndjamena radio on 14 August on the meeting in Franceville, Gabon, of Hissein Habre, FAN; Abdel Kader Kamougue Wadal, Chadian Armed Forces; Cheikh ibn Oumar, Revolutionary Democratic Council, and Abba Siddick, Original Frolinat -- who represent four Chadian political schools of thought.

"The 1st Army has never been called upon to participate in any meeting among the factions. It denies the information alleging that its chairman attended the Franceville negotiations and maintains its position that the Chadian crisis can only be resolved within the framework of the Lagos accords, the communiques explain.

The Lagos accords, which were signed in 1979, established the GUNT. Eleven Chadian political and military factions signed the agreements.

ANGOLA

CPSU DELEGATION ENDS 8-DAY VISIT 16 AUGUST

EA171230 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpts] The CPSU delegation on a friendly 8-day visit at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party left today. Present at the 4 February International Airport to see the delegation off was Comrade Lucio Lara, member of the Party Political Bureau, and Bernardo de Sousa, member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party. Just before departure, Yuriy Khristoradnov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, made the following statement:

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Portuguese translation] (?We were greatly) impressed by the enthusiasm and determination of the Angolan workers to defend and broaden the achievements of the people's democratic revolution, which has radically transformed the destiny of the people of your country. Their direct participation in state management has opened up prospects for a socialist restructuring of the economy, culture and social life. The peaceful work in Angola is being threatened by the racists of the Republic of South Africa, who enjoy support from the imperialist circles led by the United States. However, the Angolan people will not be diverted from their chosen path. We are convinced that all Angolans as militants [words indistinct] stand up to defend their fatherland with weapons in hand.

The most pressing problem of our time is the defense and safeguarding of peace on the entire planet. Of late, we have had hanging over us the threat of the breaking out of a new world war. This is the result of the actions of aggressive imperialist circles taken to exert hegemonism worldwide. Special attention [words indistinct] the need to coordinate and activate the efforts of international public opinion with the aim of defending peace and the security of peoples. [end recording]

AFP REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING IN CUNENE PROVINCE

AB171745 Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 17 Aug 82

[By Jean-Luc Porte]

[Text] Lubango, Southern Angola, Aug. 17 (AFP) -- Troops of the Angolan regular army (FAPLA) are currently engaged in heavy fighting with South African forces backed by the Angolan dissident UNITA movement in eastern Cunene Province, bordering Namibia.

The fighting, which started more than two weeks ago, is centered in the towns of Mulundo and Cuvelai, which sit astride strategic roads, according to military sources here.

As a result of resistance put up by FAPLA forces in the western part of southern Angola the South Africans are now believed to be trying to break through in eastern Cunene. Cuvelai, which is about 150 kms (almost 100 miles) from the Namibian frontier, is virtually encircled, the sources said.

South African aircraft, which have flown numerous reconnaissance flights over the region, strafed military positions in the town on Saturday.

The road from Cuvelai north towards Cassinga has been cut and the military sources said South African troops were attempting to reach the town of Matala, which is the source of electricity for Lubango, the capital of neighbouring Huila Province.

The two principal roads, Mulundo to Matala and Cuvelai to Matala, are regularly mined, and UNITA troops lay ambushes for road transport and military convoys. According to Angolan soldiers, UNITA forces are participating in guerrilla operations and sow insecurity but unlike the South Africans they quickly melt away when there is serious opposition.

According to the head of military intelligence in southern Angola the South African Army built up its motorised units in the towns of Xangongo and N'giva, which it has occupied since the invasion of southern Angola one year ago.

The latest offensive was launched from these two places under cover from South African Air Force Mirages operating from the base at Ondangwa, in Namibia, the military sources said.

The military hierarchy here recognises South African air superiority over the combat zone, but it feels confident that it will be able to defend Lubango and Matala. According to reliable sources these two towns are protected by missile sites which would make life hazardous for South African pilots approaching the area.

Lubango, which is the main town in the south, is defended jointly by FAPLA and by Cuban troops, who have their own installations here. Many Soviet advisers, wearing the uniform of the Angolan Army, live in Lubango, as do technical advisers from Eastern Europe, mainly Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. MiG aircraft are constantly airborne overhead.

Lubango, which is reported to contain major arms dumps apart from its excellent anti-aircraft system, is considered to be one of the fortresses of southern Angola.

JOURNALIST: RSA, NOT UNITA, INVOLVED IN FIGHTING

LD172316 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpts] After carrying out repeated bombing raids in Angola's southernmost Cunene Province, South African Air Force planes were today reported by AFP, in a report from Lubango, as having overflown parts of Huila Province, some 200 km inside Angolan territory.

During a telephone conversation a short while ago with Angola national radio, journalist (Nuno Fernandes) told RDP Commercial that South Africa's objective could now be Lubango, capital of Huila Province:

[Begin recording] We have reported South African attacks in the areas of Cahama and Cuvelai, some 200 km inside our country. Reports just reaching us say South African aircraft had already overflown six localities in Huila Province as what we see as a prelude to attacks on those localities. These and other reports from Lisbon, attributed to officials of the South African Embassy there, make us believe that a major offensive against Huila Province is expected.

The aircraft used in bombing raids in Angola are certainly not piloted by UNITA men nor are the land raids carried out by Centurion (?armored cars). We have no information that UNITA is equipped with such vehicles and to the best of our knowledge UNITA does not have a white army such as the one we saw in the southern part of our territory. Therefore, it is absolutely certain that these attacks are not being carried out in cooperation with UNITA. If you attentively listen to South African radio broadcasts, you will learn that they themselves are saying that they are engaged in an operation in the southern part of our territory. Therefore, the South Africans themselves admit this and we have no information which would enable us to believe that UNITA is taking part in this operation. [end recording]

ANGOP CITES PRENSA LATINA ON U.S.-RSA COLLUSION

AB171549 Luanda ANGOP in French 1435 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Luanda, 17 Aug (ANGOP) -- The South African Army is continuing its attacks on Cunene Province with the evident aim of displacing the Angolan defense lines and extending its occupation over this territory, the PRENSA LATINA agency wrote this morning.

The situation in the south can be described as very serious in view of the constant attacks by the enemy air force on Namibian refugees camps, on localities and the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] units.

If the South African forces continue to carry out these attacks, the possibility of an extension of the conflict will be greater every day.

According to experts, the Pretoria regime is implementing the North African directive to put military pressure on Angola to force that country to sign the agreement on the Namibian issue. This agreement calls for the simultaneous withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Immediately after learning of the refusal and the firm condemnations of these U.S. pressures by the Angolan Government, the South African occupation forces and some internal anti-revolutionary groups increased their attacks on localities where civilians were killed, while the air force continuously raids the southern part of Angola within the framework of this war -- apparently a silent war -- which causes daily human and material losses for Angola.

This situation forces the country to make efforts and to devote resources to strengthen its defense in view of the constant aggressions it has been subjected to by South Africa since 11 November 1975. These increased attacks by the enemy forces are aimed at destabilizing the country and, as a short-term measure, jeopardizing the independent course chosen by the MPLA-Labor Party.

Facts show the United States and South Africa are trying to carry out a (?plan) that would allow them to regain the "dignity" they lost in the Kinfangondo Mountains and in Quevec, in 1975, when the internationalist Cubans frustrated their ambitions to prevent Angola's independence. For an army like that of Pretoria, this defeat is difficult to forget, as it had been recording victories in Africa during the colonial wars, until it returned to its country of origin on 27 March 1976.

LISBON PAPER DETAILS RSA 'PLOT' AGAINST ANGOLA

PM131413 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 7 Aug 82 pp 1, 3

[Joaquim Vieira and Miguel Sousa Tavares report]

[Text] South Africa, together with a broad coalition of dissident forces within the Luanda regime, is planning an operation designed to overthrow the Angolan Government, EXPRESSO has discovered from investigations carried out in recent months.

The operation, codenamed "Cubango," was decided on in a secret agreement concluded in April in London by representatives of the South African espionage services, members of the Angolan administration, representatives of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA] and an envoy from an anti-Castro refugee organization based in Washington.

The information gathered by EXPRESSO points to the formulation of a large-scale and detailed plan envisaging a military invasion of Angola and a simultaneous seizure of power in Luanda carried out by dissident elements of the MPLA.

Substantially reproducing the joint strategy of the anti-MPLA forces during the 1975 war, the invasion of Angola would be carried out by two military columns, one starting from Zaire (to the north) and the other from Namibia (to the south).

The northern column will be composed of about 500 mercenaries, previously transported to Gabon and from there to Zaire where they will join FNLA forces. Its task will be to proceed rapidly toward Ambriz, where a confrontation is envisaged with the Cuban defense forces, and then to continue to Luanda to provide backing, if needed, for the uprising that will take place in the capital.

Despite the attempt to create the impression that the action is essentially the responsibility of Angolan oppositionists, the entire Cubango operation will, in fact, be coordinated by a general staff in which South African Army officers will play the fundamental roles.

South Africa also will provide the financial backing needed for the operation -- estimated initially to be $5 million, for the employment of 2,000 mercenaries -- specifically for the recruitment of men and the purchase of materiel.

Objectives

The objectives of the operation are to establish in Luanda a moderate pro-Western regime amenable to South African interests. To this end, the conspirators are counting on the participation in the future power structure of some present MPLA political leaders.

One of the changes envisaged is the elimination or drastic reduction of the support that Angola gives to SWAPO, particularly military. This support would be limited simply to declarations of principles and diplomatic recognition. Namibian refugee camps would be moved to beyond 450 km of the southern border.

Angola would also accept Western proposals for Namibian independence (specifically the contact groups plan) and would soften its position with respect to South Africa in international organizations.

The new regime would not immediately recognize the South African Government but would establish a policy of peaceful coexistence with that country. At a later stage, it would proceed to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the states.

With regard to additional objectives, information gathered by EXPRESSO suggests that the new authorities, once established in Luanda, would try to negotiate the withdrawal of Cuban troops and could possibly accept a sharing of government with UNITA and FNLA.

Mercenaries

EXPRESSO also has discovered that recruitment of mercenaries for Operation Cubango is being carried out mainly in Portugal and South Africa. In the latter country, contacts are being made with people living in Angola before independence, particularly former members of the Internation and State Defense Police Security Directorate General and of the "Flechas" corps (native troops).

Portuguese citizens contacted should proceed to Gabon on a date still to be set once they have been supplied with the material to be used and final instructions.

Apart from the recruitment being carried out in Portugal (mainly among former members of the Portuguese Army's Special Forces and members of Colonel Santo e Castro's anti-MPLA company in 1975) and South Africa, contacts also have been made for recruiting mercenaries among Cuban exiles in Florida (United States).

The military equipment requested from South Africa by the leaders of the operation (which one military leader told EXPRESSO is "on a considerable scale") includes, apart from mortars, grenades, bazookas, rocket launchers, machineguns and thousands of automatic rifles, battle tanks, antiaircraft guns, trucks, jeeps and pontoon bridges. The use of 2,000 pistols and defensive [as published] grenades suggests that the conspirators also are preparing for urban guerrilla fighting. The strategists also are counting on South African air support.

Further information gathered by EXPRESSO (which is naturally difficult to verify, like the information reported above, though provided by sources which we regard as reliable) suggests that the operation could be carried out soon, perhaps even this month or in September. This also can be deduced from the fact that the recruitment of mercenaries is already at an advanced stage.

However, other signs also point to the imminence of Operation Cubango. These include the alleged large-scale concentration of South African troops along Angola's border with Namibia, which recently has prompted several Angolan leaders (including President Eduardo dos Santos) to issue warnings of the imminence of an "unprecedented invasion" of their country's territory. Just 2 weeks ago, Angola Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha (Pedale) also referred to the movement of mercenaries of various countries together with these Pretoria army forces.

Lisbon Connection

The same is suggested by the intensified activity of individuals whose movements EXPRESSO recently has tried to follow and who are what could be called Operation Cubango's Lisbon connection.

Indeed, the Portuguese capital has served as one of the main bases for the conspirators against the Angolan regime. It has been the venue for several meetings at which details of the operation have been planned, and financial funds to cover part of their costs abroad have been channeled there.

Lisbon is also the base of one of the principal leaders of Operation Cubango. This is Victor Fernandes, Angolan dissident and link-man between the Luanda regime's internal opposition and the South African secret services.

Victor Fernandes has met several times in Lisbon with another of the brains behind the operation -- South African Gary van Dyke, identified as an agent in Europe of Pretoria's Department of National Security. Gary van Dyke, who is normally posted in London -- where he has an office near Victoria Station and accommodations in Chelsea -- was booked into Room 1224 of Lisbon's Penta Hotel from 23 May through 5 June this year. He next flew back to South Africa and returned to the British capital a few weeks later. In the last few days of July, he returned to Portugal with his wife and two children to spend a few days' vacation at a house on the Caparica coast.

Victor Fernandes also visited South Africa in June and July, where he met with Gary van Dyke and other officials of the Pretoria secret services. At these meetings, the main guidelines and timetable for Operation Cubango apparently were drawn up.

Diplomat Implicated

The South African Embassy in Lisbon must itself be involved in the conspiracy: Its consular services supplied Victor Fernandes with the visa that enabled him to enter this country about 2 months ago. The authorization, dated 11 May 1982, was inserted in a Portuguese passport, No 3447/82, issued by the government office in Betubal. Since Victor Fernandes had Angolan nationality, the document had to be obtained by fraudulent means.

Victor Fernandes handed his passport -- so that it could be stamped with the appropriate visa -- to the South African Embassy's assistant military, air and naval attache, Comdr Jacobus Everhardus Louw, at a meeting in Lisbon's Imperio Cafe on 10 May. An EXPRESSO reporter witnessed the meeting between the two men, which lasted about 30 minutes (1800 to 1830), following which Victor Fernandes placed his passports in Jacoubus Louw's hands. The South African diplomat left the meeting place first, followed by Victor Fernandes a few minutes later.

The conspirators have been supported in Portugal by Fernando Simoes, a former second lieutenant in the commando battalion, which worked alongside Colonel Santos e Castro's column in 1975. Fernando Simoes has been seen in Lisbon several times in the company of Victor Fernandes and Gary van Dyke. He too recently visited South Africa, where he apparently had meetings with both these people.

Government Informed

The man chiefly responsible for the operation's military planning is apparently South African Brigadier Jack Rollins, with whom Gary van Dyke, Victor Fernandes and Fernando Simoes met in this country. Jack Rollins, whose real name is James J. Koos Kemp, has identified to EXPRESSO as head of dons and one of the top leaders of the South African Army's secret services, within which he is in charge of counterespionage. EXPRESSO also has ascertained from a reliable source that Jack Rollins also was in Portugal at the end of May.

The representative of the anti-Castro refugees who attended the Lisbon meeting is American Frank Sturgis, who in the mid-70's was closely linked with John Stockwell, a CIA specialist in South African affairs.

It is not known if Sturgis is still linked with U.S. espionage. However, his name was already well-known before this. In fact, Frank Sturgis was one of the five people involved in the attack on the Democratic Party offices in Washington's Watergate building in 1972, which gave rise to the political scandal that culminated in President Richard Nixon's resignation. The U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK dated 14 June, in an article on the 10th anniversary of the Watergate case, said Sturgis currently "works with Cuban rebels and Nicaraguan exiles."

A source connected with the surveillance of foreigners' movements told EXPRESSO that Frank Sturgis was in Portugal some months ago, staying at Lisbon's Roma Hotel under false identity.

A member of the government has disclosed to EXPRESSO that Portuguese authorities were aware of the conspirators' movements in Lisbon (at least initially) and of their objectives. The same sources also revealed that [Prime Minister] Pinto Balsemao was informed but that he was unaware of whether the Angolan Government had been informed. He also said that no specific measure has been taken to expel the foreigners involved in the operation or to prevent their activities. EXPRESSO has been able to conclude that surveillance of these individuals stopped several months ago, so that their movements in Portugal have taken place fairly freely.

NAMIBIA

NINE CIVILIANS KILLED IN SWAPO ATTACK 15 AUG

LD171626 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Nine civilians, including two children, were killed in Ovambo, north South-West Africa, on Sunday when SWAPO terrorists attacked a small country shop at (Sondi). A policeman spokesman in Windhoek today confirmed the attack and added that the terrorists had fled when police based at (Sondi) returned the mortar fire. The attackers apparently numbered about 20. The Security Force is carrying out a followup operation.

SOUTH AFRICA

STAR: UNITA PLANNING 'MAJOR OFFENSIVE'

MB180731 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] UNITA is planning a major offensive to overthrow Angola's government. A report in today's JOHANNESBURG STAR newspaper quotes a Paris-based publication as saying Jonas Savimbi's guerrilla organization is gearing powerfully for the onslaught.

UNITA is said to be recruiting up to 2,000 mercenaries to overthrow Angola's president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

A Portuguese paper says the plot is backed by South Africa. A defense force representative in Pretoria has rejected the allegation. The Portuguese paper says that a South African intelligence officer, Gen J.J. Kemp, attended a meeting in London in April with nine conspirators.

A mercenary coup bid in Angola would apparently cost UNITA R5.8 million.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA: OAU DOES NOT BELONG TO AL-QADHDHAFI

MB160654 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 11 Aug 82

[President Kaunda press conference at State House, Lusaka, on 11 August -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency, perhaps you would like to give us your opinion as to what you consider were the reasons that led to the failure of the summit?

[Answer] So far as the OAU summit is concerned, one would be less than honest if one did not say that we were for the first time confronted with a very serious problem, a problem of such dimension as to worry all of us. Yet I must say that in this very worry there is also hope -- hope for the continent, hope for mankind as a whole -- for we should forget that as people who want to build humanism through socialism, any place anywhere in God's arrangement for man on this earth we can [word indistinct] the rest of mankind.

Now, why do I say that? Let me quickly analyze the problem as we see it in Zambia -- what forces were at work?

The forces of exploitative international capital today are, in a number of cases, even stronger than the most [words indistinct]. Take the U.S.A. which is the superpower of Western capitalism as we know it. There are multinationals in America which are also found in Britain, West Germany, France and all these other countries. These multinationals are not under the control of any other governments.

These multinationals are more powerful than the present prime ministers of the world where capitalism rules and where exploitative international capital comes from.

How do we say that now? How do these powerful forces of exploitation, of exploitative international capital effect the OAU? The OAU is plagued not only (?by such line) of evils, it is also plagued by poverty and its offshoots of hunger, ignorance, disease, crime, corruption and exploitation of man by man. Now, where poverty reigns, the power, the strength, the character of man is affected because it is easy for anyone from the exploiting forces to say to Kaunda: You behave. If you do not behave, we are not going to help you pay your debts. Your line of arrears now is over 500 million kwachas. You are in trouble, and if you do not behave according to how we want you to do, we are not going to have this aid from from us.

Naturally, Kaunda who [words indistinct] he must give way and behave according to how these forces are giving to him to do.

Now that is one line of our brothers who did not come to the OAU summit. And make no mistake. I am not blaming them. They know their problems better than I do. They know the only way that they might be solved. Who am I to blame them?

Now, there is another line of people who did not come to the OAU. These are people who do not accept the recognition of Polisario and its government. These could not come as a matter of what they consider their own principles.

Thirdly, there are people who did not come, again out of their own principles. They do not like Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. So in fact, there are three areas here of leaders who did not come.

And with this analysis of the problem and of three categories of leadership of Africa, I would like to end up my summary by pointing out that when we speak of the OAU, let us in Zambia under humanism remember that we are speaking of close to 500 million people. We are not speaking of leaders only. So, really, we should look at the OAU not as a simple thing. It is an organization of the masses of the people of Africa. Its weakness is a weakness of mankind of the world. Is there a stupid man anywhere who wants to weaken this organization and thinks he is actually doing something?

[Question] Your Excellency, you talked of three forces which were against this particular summit. I am trying to find out from you which you consider was the greater force against holding the summit in Libya, the force which boycotted the summit because of the Polisario and its government, or the international exploitative capital? There was an occasion before the summit where the President of the United States, President Reagan, actually said President al-Qadhdafi of Libya had sent an assassination squad to assassinate President Reagan, and hence it is natural that the American Government was probably against the holding of this particular summit in Libya. Which of the three forces I have mentioned was greater?

[Answer] There is no doubt at all that we will be deceiving ourselves if we did not identify the forces of exploitative international capital as the most predominant force in this division of three groups of our leadership that did not come to Tripoli. There is no doubt about that.

[Question] Your Excellency, after the failure of the OAU meeting, the 32 countries which met there formed a commission or committee of five countries, including Zambia.

[Answer] The most popular word they use is contact group. [laughter]

[Question] This contact group has been empowered by the 32 countries to see if they can woo the boycotting countries to attend the meeting in Tripoli within the next 3 months. Do you think that this committee will succeed in persuading the boycotting countries to attend another meeting in Tripoli? And secondly, if the boycotting countries do not want Tripoli to be the venue, will the 32 countries agree that the venue be shifted from Libya, say to Addis Ababa?

[Answer] Some of our brothers will be able to (?change) in what we are going to talk to them about. Because of what I have said, we cannot begin thinking of another venue. We must work on the basis of the fact that we are going to succeed with God's blessings and guidance. So Zambia agreed to serve on the contact group as a member not only because we believe firmly in the importance of the OAU, but also because we believe that a number of leaders who stayed away, once we explain to them what is involved, will be able to come to Tripoli. We have no doubt about that.

[Question] Your Excellency, at least you have mentioned three factors as being mainly responsible for the failure of this meeting in Tripoli. But I think in other ways one tends to think that the issue at Tripoli was caused more by geographic considerations than political or diplomatic. I say this because the two recent issues which have threatened the OAU, that is, Chad and the Polisario, are located more or less in the same location. And also you will note the fact that most of the boycotting countries come from the same area. Do you think this has an additional significance on the other three elements which you have mentioned earlier?

[Answer] We cannot really begin to analyze a very serious problem by trying to find a scapegoat in the fact that a number of these problems are found in Arab Africa. It is true that Polisario is Arab, Morocco is Arab, Algeria is Arab, Libya is Arab. But then, these countries were put here by God on the Continent of Africa, for they are part of this continent and, therefore, their problems, as I keep saying, cannot be solved by any one of us.

[Question] Your Excellency, the five-nation contact group, of which Zambia is one -- how soon do you think, Your Excellency, will it be able to meet and who is the convener? We would like you to throw some light on that.

[Answer] Perhaps for additional information for the people of Zambia, in fact the contact group consists of six members. They are: Libya, Mali, Congo, Tanzania, Mozambique and Zambia. We will get busy -- fairly soon I hope, God willing -- we should I think, within a month or so, be able to meet somewhere. There is no convener in this one. We are all conveners. But someone will be able to summon us to some place -- as I say, within a month or soon after a month, to compare works of what we have done in the interim. And perhaps we will be able to report to our chairman, President arap Moi, so that he can summon an OAU summit.

The question raised by our brother, the minister of foreign affairs of Sudan, that it was an illegal contact group, well, we have to remember that sometimes when a man is very sick and the use of modern medicine fails, you can go to a witch doctor and he might heal you. [laughter].

[Question] Why is it that you will be reporting to the current chairman of the OAU, because he did not attend the meeting?

[Answer] Because we are still operating within the ambit of the OAU and he is still our chairman. The OAU has very flexible muscles. [Words indistinct]

[Question] Technically, Polisario gained 24 points initially. That could have allowed her to get the seat in the OAU. But what actually led to dissension over that which had allowed on the OAU Charter?

[Answer] Some members support Morocco's stand very strongly. They have not accepted Polisario government [words indistinct]. In fact, there are some like Nigeria that have recognized the Polisario as a party but not as a government. And, therefore, they are the countries that might trip the balance. If they should go along... [Kaunda changes thought] (?I must admit) Nigeria did a lot at the foreign ministers level. Nigeria did a lot and their opponents almost carried the day [words indistinct]. So one will hope that the other countries will be able to put their lot behind the door, to find a solution to this complex problem.

[Question] If the contact group does fail to persuade other boycotting countries to go to Libya, do you think that the 32 countries which attended this meeting in Libya would consider a mini-OAU so that other people can follow later on at a later stage when they (?consent).

[Answer] (?I would not state) -- not for lack of courage, but because it takes me back to the point of pessimism -- that the contact group would have failed even before it has started. We need it. [Words indistinct] as I said earlier, and it must succeed, must succeed. We have to do everything possible to make it succeed and, to do that, we need optimism from the word go.

[Question] Would you, from your own personal understanding, tell the nation why major countries like Zaire, Egypt and Sudan feel that they cannot go to Tripoli?

[Answer] The only way in which you can (?handle) the sort of question is by taking the countries one by one. Egypt has a problem with Libya. There are no diplomatic relations. They have been fighting. Sudan and Libya do not see eye to eye. They are still fighting each other, politically I mean. They have no diplomatic relations so they cannot come. Zaire, as an independent country, recognized Israel recently and Libya denounced Zaire's action. And I do not think Zaire will like to go to Libya because of this problem. So the main reason these countries did not come is because they have, simply, problems of diplomacy between themselves on one hand and Libya on the other.

[Question] Since you took part in the consultation which went on there, would you say it is a fair observation to say that generally some people went to the OAU summit to try to save the OAU spirit rather than the smaller question of the Polisario?

[Answer] Your comment is right. A number of us, I think, if [words indistinct] would not have gone there. I personally was going to stay back here in Zambia because, as you know, we have a serious economic situation in the country as a result of worldwide inflation, worldwide economic problems. [Words indistinct] so I was going to stay back home. But when I realized we had a crisis like that, I had to go. It was the duty of Zambia to play some role, no matter how humble, to see that the OAU did not crumble.

[Question] Given the answer you have given, perhaps you will be in a position to tell us what is Zambia's position toward this republic, diplomatically, that is, the Saharaui?

[Answer] Oh well, we recognize them.

[Question] As a state?

[Answer] Yes, we recognize them as a state. We believe that they have the right to found their own institutions and we are very friendly with the king of Morocco. But there was this delay in carrying out a referendum which was a decision of the OAU some time back. Now, once you delay in implementing decisions of that nature, you really invite all sorts of problems and, hence, the recognition by a number of African countries for the Polisario government. It is because the Moroccan authorities and others responsible say they would act quickly [words indistinct]. Now it is virtually impossible, in my opinion -- I am not expressing an OAU opinion but Zambian opinion -- it is virtually impossible for us to organize a referendum now. The war has become more and more serious. The hositality is intense and I do not see how any referendum could now be held in that situation.

[Question] Could it not have been magnanimous enough on the part of the Saharaui Republic to pull back as being suggested by the Libyan foreign minister so they can allow this 19th session to take place and probably discuss their future in greater detail?

[Answer] Unfortunately, I can only speak for Zambia and not the Polisario government.

[Question] Your Excellency, while you were in Libya, you held informal discussions with various heads of state and among them must have been the head of the state of Libya. What was his reaction to this situation? [words indistinct]

[Answer] It is not all that obvious. It is too difficult because you are asking me to tell what was discussed at heads of state level, without the permission of the other heads of state. I am afraid I cannot tell you all, but I can tell you that Libya is very strong on the Polisario government. Their participation in OAU affairs. Libya is very strong on the [words indistinct] that is all I can tell you about.

[Question] Would you like to comment, your Excellency, on the solidarity of the frontline states in southern Africa, because it may well be that each single head of state from the frontline countries was working towards solidarity for the benefit of unity in the OAU.

[Answer] Your comments are also very important. It was the only group that went to Tripoli in one solid condition. And it scares, thereby, any of these forces we are talking about. It is to us a lot of pride -- not only a pride to us alone but to Africa as a whole -- that because of the importance of the struggle, we remain part of the struggle because the OAU has helped to liberate many other parts of the continent and now we are in the southern part. And this task can be given to the frontline countries. It was a great source of encouragement to us that all of us were there in Tripoli. In spite of the many problems -- look at Angola -- with the South Africans attacking Angola, Angola was still there. The South Africans are still attacking Mozambique through this so-called government of national resistance. It was still there. Comrade Mugabe, with all the problems within his country, was still there. President Nyerere with his economic problems, Zambia with its economic problems, still, as one element, we were there in Tripoli. For me, this was a great source of encouragement.

[Question] Your Excellency, the problems of the OAU meeting in Libya could be analogized to the nonaligned meeting which is coming up in Baghdad. We believe that the forces which were against the OAU meeting could be again against the Baghdad meeting. What are the nonaligned countries doing to forestall the machinations of these forces so that the meeting could be held in Baghdad as planned? And is Zambia going to attend?

[Answer] Well, let me start with the last part of the question. Zambia still believes that the summit should be held in Baghdad and we like to believe that Zambia must go at the highest possible level. That means I must go. Really we should not take the need for world unity lightly. And this means sacrifice. This means sacrifice. The little money that we have must be used not only for our development but also for the continental development of Africa, for the development of mankind as a whole.

So I use this question to say that we in Zambia are going to go. The only thing that might make us change our mind is if Baghdad itself announced that for some reason they are going to [words indistinct] because of the war situation. If that was announced by the president of Iraq, we are ready to obey.

Coming to the first part of the question, there is no doubt at all that these forces are at work and they use many methods -- and their forces are all over the world. I do not need to claim one. They are all over the world.

[Question] Will you send messages, Your Excellency, to the OAU countries that boycotted the OAU [words indistinct] for continued African unity?

[Answer] There is no doubt at all. I would make a personal appeal to our colleagues. But generally, I want to say this applies to all of us. We need the OAU. The OAU does not belong to Al-Qadhdhafi. The OAU belongs to the 500 million people of Africa. The OAU does not belong to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. He is only the man ruling the country which was selected at the Nairobi summit to host this summit. Whatever President al-Qadhdhafi might do or might not do must not be taken as the OAU. The OAU is above al-Qadhdhafi -- the OAU is above Kaunda, the OAU is above all of us heads of state. The OAU belongs to the masses of Africa.

[Question] I was going to put it to you this way, Your Excellency: I do not know and I have never known of any bilateral relations between Zambia and Libya, but after having met Colonel al-Qadhdhafi this time, do you have any renewed impressions of him?

[Answer] There is no doubt at all that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is a good man. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi feels very strongly on certain issues of these forces that we have explained here. Naturally, like all young people, he feels (?activist) in what he believes in. This may involve Africa as at stake. So he may react to some of them in a certain way which may not please some of our colleagues.

On the question of Chad, I told my brother through his emissary here that we supported his troops being in Chad because they were invited by a leader who was recognized by the OAU. And according to the United Nations Charter, that leader has the right to ask anyone to come and help him when he faces trouble, internal or otherwise. But we could not support him on the proposed merger of Libya and Chad because that must be a decision to be (?deliberated and questioned) by the people of Chad and the people of Libya through a referendum or some other method like that. So I think it was [word indistinct]. And I want you to know that [words indistinct] when I went he mentioned it to me, and this was very good advice and he received it openly.

Now, I would like to end on this word by saying again [words indistinct] that African leaders should not look at Al-Qadhdhafi as Africa. The OAU belongs to them but beyond that it belongs to the masses -- 500 million of them in Africa -- and no consideration of one man should allow us political-wise to do that -- to destroy the organization.

[Question] Your Excellency, I would like to cut in again. People came to say that the OAU summit in Libya was abortive and used other adjectives. But nevertheless, 32 countries and their heads of government or heads of state attended. They had an opportunity to discuss bilateral questions. Would you say that was (?a threat) to the unity of breaking of the OAU?

[Answer] Thank you for asking that question. It is very important. You see, despite the forces at work who claim that the OAU summit flopped, in a sense, we face facts: It did not take place. In that sense, we would say it flopped. But, in fact, the outcome of that summit which, as I have outlined already, was attended by more heads of state and government than any other I remember. Otherwise, others had been attended by prime ministers -- not executive ones like Comrade Mugabe and the comrade of Mauritius -- it was attended either by those nonexecutive prime ministers, foreign ministers, etc. at that level. I have attended many of these. But this one was attended by 20 heads of state and two nonexecutive prime ministers -- 22, therefore, heads of state and governments. And the rest were foreign ministers and so on. So it was well attended. And what is more, the attendance [words indistinct] was always full and some of us stayed on for 12 hours a day, because it was serious business. And yet, we were all there all the time.

So really the way the forces of exploitative international capital had [words indistinct] they were that we did not hold a formal summit. But this informal summit was a great success, I tell you, and Africa has no doubt about that. Africa will emerge out of it stronger than ever before. I am full of hope, not because I am a born optimist but I base my hopes on facts, some of which I have shared with you.

There was a problem. Nobody says there were no problems. Nobody is saying these problems are not serious. They are. Perhaps it is in times like this that we remain [words indistinct], regardless of what is involved, and Africa -- East, West, North and South -- has got intelligent men and women, and they will not be found wanting. The OAU will grow from strength to strength. I am convinced of that.